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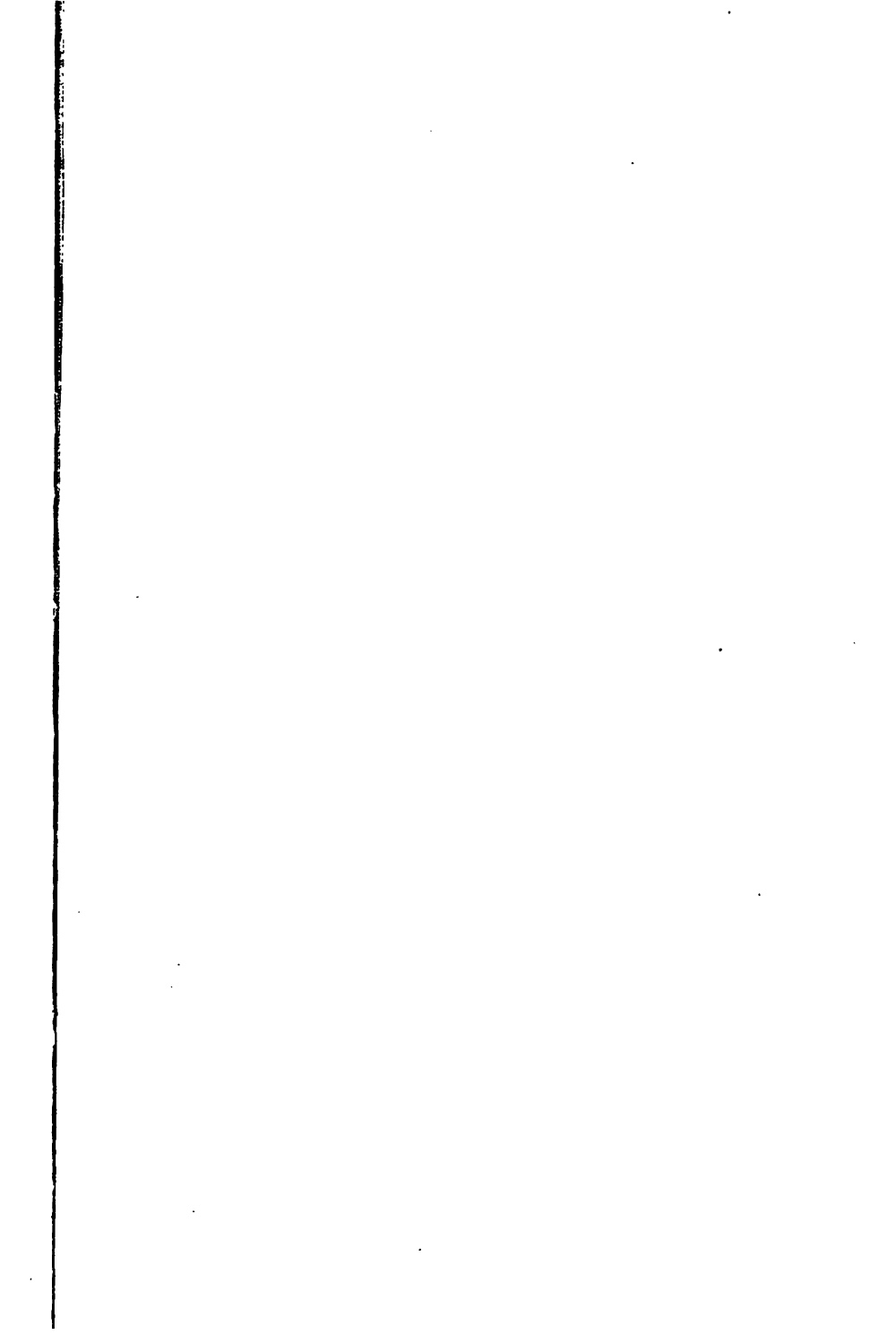
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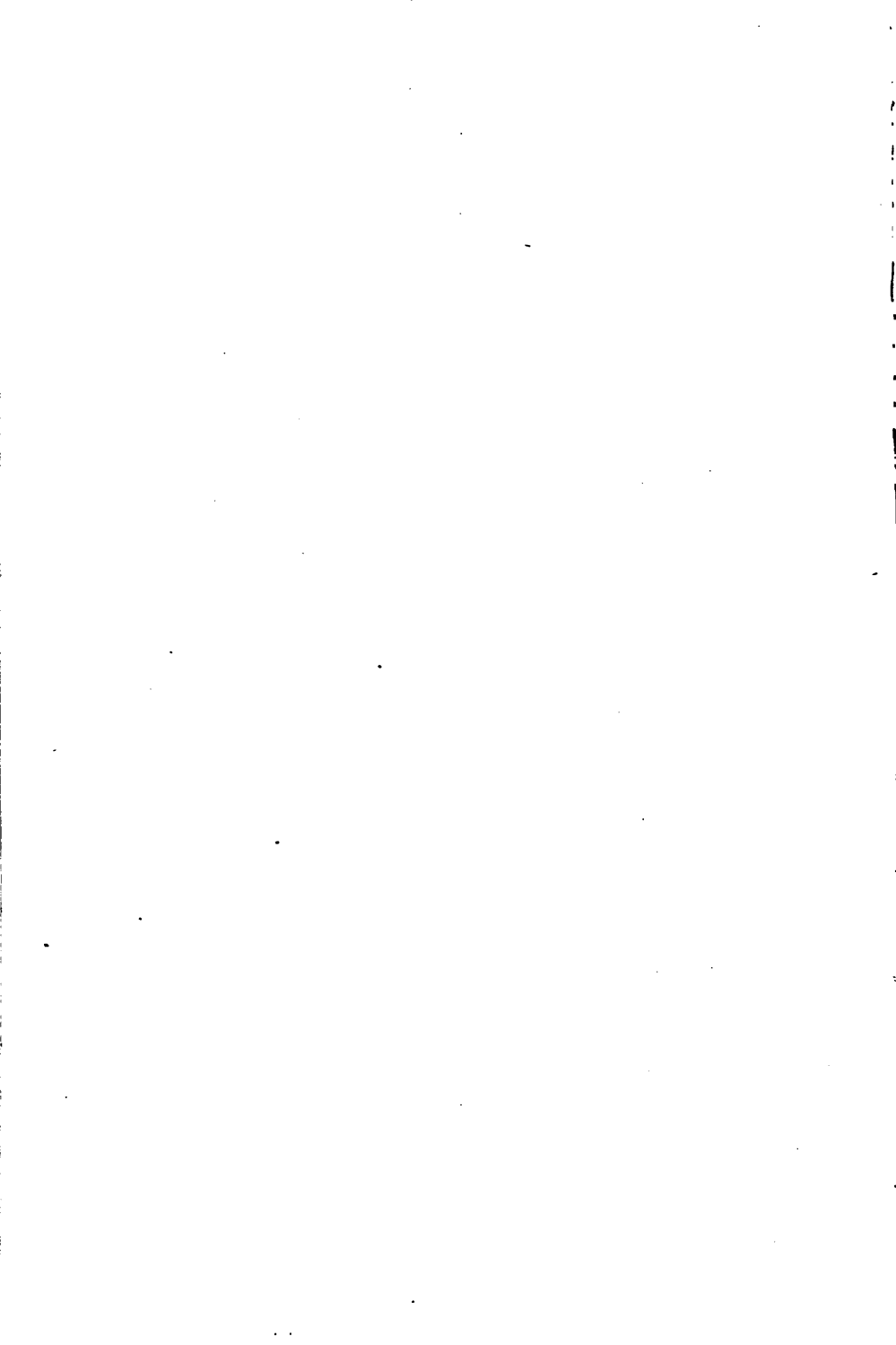


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# COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY

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By E. V. ROBINSON

EDUCATION DEPT.

The Rand-McNally Press  
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## PREFACE

*"Can geography be taught so as to make students think?"—Jowett.*

THIS question, propounded by the translator of Plato's works suggests the doubt felt by all who hold the disciplinary or culture theory of education, in regard to the so-called "practical" subjects in the curriculum. The question is one which must be fairly met and answered if these subjects are to be accepted as truly educational in character.

In the case of physical geography, much progress has been made toward a truly scientific, and therefore disciplinary, method of treatment. But in the case of commercial geography, less progress has been made because the nature and scope of the subject have been frequently misapprehended, especially in English-speaking lands.

Commercial geography seems first to have appeared during the 18th century in schools patronized by the trading classes, under the name of Trader's Geography (*Kaufmannsgeographie, Handelsgeographie*). The subject matter comprised unrelated scraps of information concerning anything and everything "useful for a merchant to know," with special reference, however, to transportation and trade. It was from this class of works that the name commercial geography was borrowed; and by reason of this origin, commercial geography has tended to deal with accomplished facts rather than causes, and with the movement or circulation of goods rather than the fundamental matter of production. Books of this type, lacking a causal or other rational interpretation for their masses of empirical facts, are filled with dollars and bushels and tons in lieu of principles. Clearly, the memorizing of isolated facts and unrelated statistics cannot make students think, nor is it, in any proper sense of the word, educational.

On the other hand, those who have sought to rationalize the subject have as a rule proceeded on the assumption that everything must be explained, if it is to be explained at all, in terms of physical environment. The attempt, however, to explain the immensely complex distribution of industries by one set formula—the influence of environment—results in innumerable forced, artificial explanations which do not really explain. In the end, after the geographical factor has thus been seriously overworked, the usual upshot of the matter is a relapse into the old plan of piling fact upon fact, figure upon figure, without any serious attempt at explanation. The reader will readily recall cases in point.

In these circumstances, it becomes necessary to raise the fundamental question: What is commercial geography? What is its purpose, its scope, and its appropriate method of treatment?

The purpose of commercial geography, as the author conceives it, is to explain, in terms of all the factors involved, the geographic division of labor. More briefly, commercial geography is the study of the localization of industries.

The factors involved are not only nature, but also man and capital goods; for land (or natural resources), labor, and tools or machinery of some sort are indispensable to every kind of production other than that of the bare-handed savage who merely appropriates whatever nature provides. It follows that any variation in the supply, or efficiency, or cost of either labor or capital goods will affect the localization of industries quite as directly as will differences in natural resources or climate. There are consequently three distinct sets of controls—the natural, the human, and the economic—which jointly determine the localization of industries; and commercial geography dare not neglect any one of them on penalty of becoming merely a mass of disconnected facts.

This is true for the reason that while natural resources are due to nature, products are due to man; and the individual man, on whom in the last analysis all production depends,

## PREFACE

takes nature into account precisely as he does the factor of labor or capital, that is to say, only in so far as it enables him to produce more goods of a certain kind, or at less cost. It is only as nature thus becomes transmuted into human motives of an economic sort that it effectively controls industry.

Commercial geography, introducing economic considerations and economic modes of reasoning, is consequently the point of contact between the group of sciences dealing with nature and the group dealing with human society; yet it is not a mere mixture of geography and economics. On the contrary, it is a unified scientific discipline so long as it deals with all such facts, and only such facts, as can be shown to have relation to the localization of industry; for unity of purpose and viewpoint constitute the unity of every science.

In view of its purpose, commercial geography has in general no concern with the machinery of exchange, the technique of trade, or industrial processes, unless (as occasionally happens) some of these become factors in the localization of industry. Still less is commercial geography concerned with the description of industries, city by city, which is the proper function of a gazetteer. There is in fact no reason for so much as naming cities in commercial geography except as they illustrate some general principle relating to the localization of industries.

The purpose and scope of the subject in turn indicate the appropriate method of treatment. The control of industries by physical environment is logically first, since it underlies and conditions all others even when, as often happens, other controls have become predominant. For this reason, every scientific treatment of commercial geography must begin with the natural control of industry. For the same reason, after the general or systematic treatment of controls, a regional treatment properly follows. Relief, soil, climate, and natural resources present striking differences in different regions, and only by a regional treatment can these differences be analyzed and their effect appreciated. Finally, there is the



added advantage in a regional treatment that the connection of economic activities with the soil is more obvious, and that the problem of the localization of industries is, therefore, relatively simple and concrete. It follows, therefore, that the intensive regional study of the world, or of some considerable part of it,<sup>1</sup> logically precedes and forms the training for the broader and more complex generalizations involved in the study of the great world industries.

The present work has been written in the belief that the type of commercial geography herein indicated can assuredly be taught "so as to make students think."

The author is indebted to many friends and critics for valuable suggestions: notably to Professor Richard E. Dodge, of Teachers' College, New York; Professor T. N. Carver, of Harvard University; Professor Isaiah Bowman, of Yale University; Professor M. S. W. Jefferson, of the Michigan State Normal School at Ypsilanti; Professor J. F. Chamberlain, of the State Normal School at Los Angeles; Mr. Wm. B. Guitteau, Supt. of Schools at Toledo, Ohio; Mr. W. N. Ferris, of the Ferris Institute at Big Rapids, Mich.; Mr. Dwight W. Edwards, of the Princeton Mission in Peking; also to Principal D. Lange, of the Humboldt High School, Mr. H. W. Schmidt, Supervisor of Schools, Dr. F. C. Miller, of the Central High School, and Mr. E. N. Bonnell of the John A. Johnson High School, all of St. Paul, Minn. Special thanks are due to Professor C. D. Allin of the University of Minnesota, who read the proof with great care and made many penetrating criticisms. It goes without saying, however, that the author is solely responsible for the views expressed.

<sup>1</sup>It is worthy of note in this connection that both the Committee of Nine of the National Educational Association, which reported at Los Angeles in 1909, and also the committee of the Association of American Geographers, which reported at the 1909 meeting, expressed strong dissatisfaction with the systematic method even in physical geography; and that the present work more nearly corresponds, by virtue of its use of the regional method and its distribution of emphasis, with the plan recommended by these committees, than any now in print. (See *Journal of Geography*, March, 1910.)

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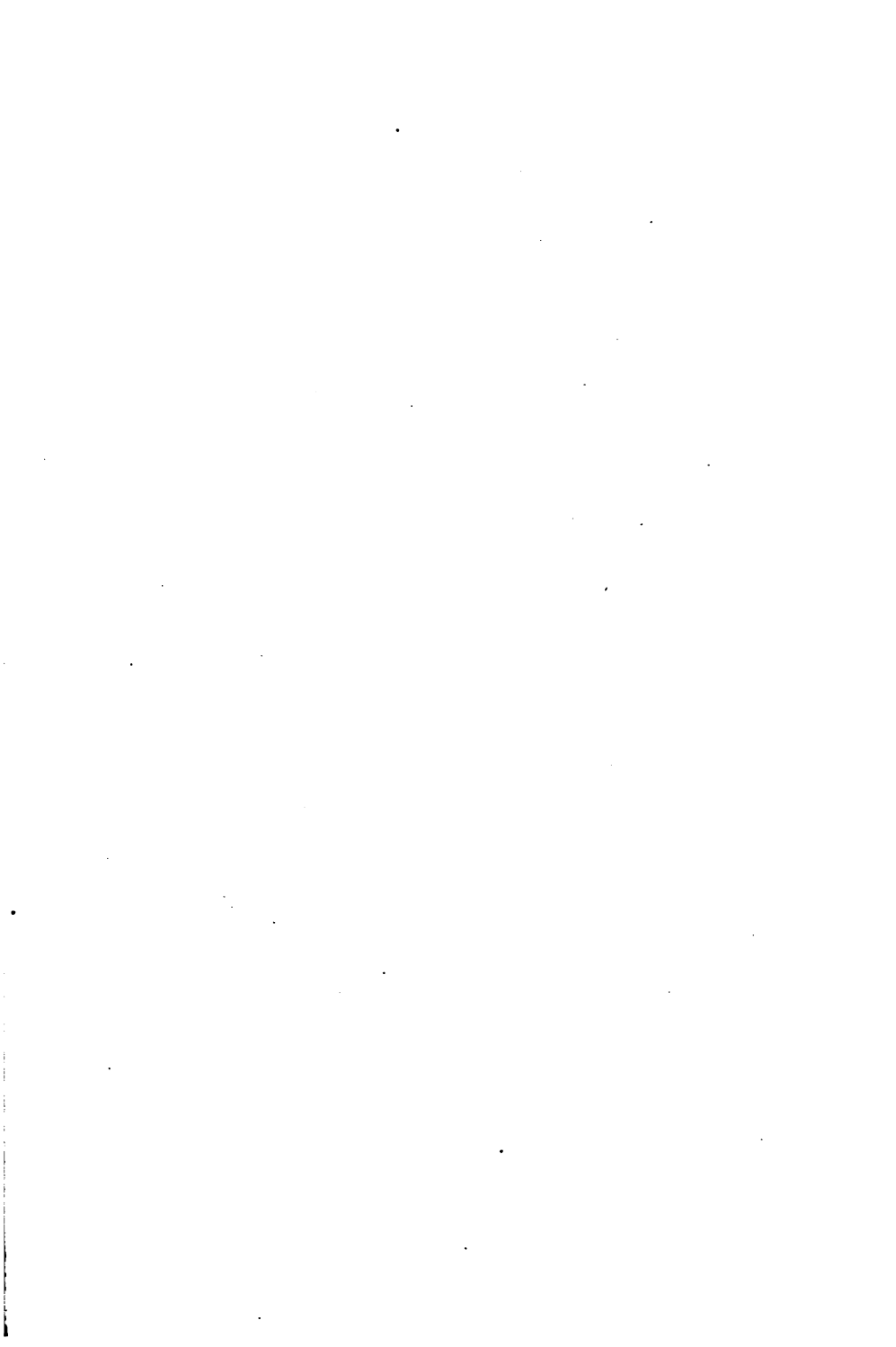
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Courtesy of Gt. N. S. S. Co.

*A modern commerce carrier: S. S. Minnesota.*

## COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY

### PART I

## THE GROWTH AND FACTORS OF COMMERCE

### *I—THE BEGINNINGS OF COMMERCE*

**1. The Origin of Barter.** Commerce began in the form of barter. This was at first merely an exchange of gifts; but the idea of getting a bargain, or at least an equivalent value, soon appeared. Men of neighboring tribes, though often at war, would then meet near the boundaries of their tribal territories for barter, much as Northern and Southern pickets "swapped" coffee and tobacco during our Civil War. In the early ages of the world this was everywhere the common method of trade, and it continued in the Pacific islands down to the coming of the first white explorers, who found an exchange of "gifts" generally expected.

The practice of barter lacked, indeed, the excitement of the plundering raids which all tribes had been wont to make into the territories of their neighbors. It had, however, the undeniable advantage that it profited both parties and, incidentally, that no heads were broken. In time it therefore became increasingly prevalent, until finally those favorably situated for trade took it up as a regular business. Such are the trading tribes of Africa, familiar to every reader of Stanley.

**2. The Origin of Markets and Fairs.** The place where people met for trade became, in time, the market; and this was commonly rendered neutral territory by being put under the protection of the gods, especially such as were venerated by several tribes. Breaches of the peace thus became offenses against the gods. This practice explains the early connection between markets and religious sanctuaries.









FIG. 2. A caravan near the walls of Peking.

of Egypt and Mesopotamia, where the soil was wonderfully fertile, the climate was warm, and some of the seed-bearing grasses, now known as cereals, grew wild. Even among hunting tribes, the women commonly gather some vegetable food; and there is little doubt that the women were the first to till the soil. The men long continued to despise agriculture, though they deeply appreciated its fruits, as was the case with the maize crops raised by the Indian squaws.

This change in the food supply from herds to crops worked a revolution in the conditions of human life. Hunters had of necessity lived from hand to mouth—a feast to-day and a famine to-morrow—without time or thought for the future. Even shepherds had been ever on the move in search of fresh pasturage. Agriculture, however, yielding a large amount of food per acre, could feed a dense and settled population. Tillage of the soil thus made possible for the first time the growth of manufacturing and commercial cities.

At favorable points in these valleys, especially where overland routes crossed the rivers, great cities consequently developed, and their population acquired astonishing skill in hand work of all sorts. Domestic trade flourished, exchanging the products of town and country. Great engineering works were executed, especially for irrigation purposes, which modern engineering skill can hardly surpass. And powerful empires, the first known to history, arose. This was the so-called Fluvial or "Valley" stage of civilization, associated with the Nile, Euphrates, and Tigris rivers. In contrast to it are the later Mediterranean stage, when civilization centered about the Inland (Mediterranean) Sea, and the present Oceanic stage, when civilization reaches out to embrace the world.

**6. Egypt and Mesopotamia.** The isolation of these valleys, girt about as they were by deserts and mountains, had favored the development of agriculture, for it in a measure hindered invasion. Isolation, however, was not favorable to the growth of foreign commerce. In Egypt, as in China,

it even gave rise to a strong spirit of exclusiveness and to an unreasoning attachment to ancient customs. This spirit threw the foreign trade of Egypt, when it finally did develop, largely into the hands of the Phœnicians and, in later times, the Greeks.<sup>1</sup>

Mesopotamia was far less isolated than Egypt. The Tigris, with its branching valleys, gave access to the North and East; the Euphrates, reaching almost to the headwaters of the Orontes, bound the country even more closely to the West. This region therefore became the meeting place (before 2000 B C.) of the East and the West; and here a great foreign commerce, using money as a medium of exchange, first sprang up. Along the Tigris and Euphrates and the caravan roads running east and west from these rivers, many great commercial cities have flourished in different ages: Nineveh, Babylon, Seleucia,<sup>2</sup> Ctesiphon, Bagdad, on the rivers; Sidon, Tyre, Beirut, and many others on the Mediterranean coast where the caravan routes reached the sea; Damascus, Palmyra, Aleppo, in oases midway between. (Fig. 3.)

Many of these cities are now but mounds of earth amid the unutterable desolation of the Mesopotamian plain, or else lie buried beneath the shifting sands of the desert. The discovery (1498) of the sea route to India, which in the main superseded caravan trade, dealt a heavy blow to this whole region; and its ruin was completed by the Suez Canal (1869). Nevertheless, the natural routes of overland trade remain; and the railways which German and Russian engineers have surveyed through Turkey and Persia follow the paths bleached with bones from the countless caravans of ages past.

<sup>1</sup>See Cunningham, *Western Civilization*, vol. i, pp. 14, 16, 24, 44, 45, 54; Day, *History of Commerce*, pp. 9, 10.

<sup>2</sup>Seleucia was the commercial center under the Greeks and Romans (until A. D. 198); Ctesiphon under the New Persian Empire (A. D. 198-635), Bagdad under the Arabs (after 762 A. D.).

## II—THE MEDITERRANEAN AGE OF COMMERCE

*"Westward the course of empire takes its way."—Bishop Berkeley.*

**7. The Phœnicians.** The Mediterranean Age of Commerce began with the Phœnicians (before 1500 B. C.), who were essentially a seafaring and commercial people—the first, indeed, who dared to "go down to the sea in ships."

They dared it because of necessity. Their home, the narrow coast land of Syria north of Mount Carmel, contained little land fit for tillage, while the giant "Cedars of Lebanon" at their backs furnished timber for shipbuilding. Beginning as fishermen (Sidon means "the Fisher City"), they learned the secret of extracting a valuable dye, the famous "Tyrian purple" from the *Murex*, a kind of shell fish. This discovery gave rise to the weaving and dyeing of textiles. Other industries were also established, especially glass making, for which suitable sands were at hand, and metal working.

Metals exist only in certain places, yet they are indispensable everywhere. The need of metals was therefore the first motive of world commerce. For this reason the Phœnicians early occupied Cyprus, noted for its rich veins of copper. They also settled (about 1100 B. C.) Gades (Cadiz) as an outlet for the silver and lead of Spain. They even brought back the tin of Britain to be smelted at Tyre.

Finally they founded (850 B. C.) the mighty colony of Carthage. For more than five centuries thereafter Carthage was the mistress of the western Mediterranean, waging repeated wars to protect her commercial monopoly against the Greeks and, under Hannibal, even endangering Rome.

**8. The Greeks.** The successors of the Phœnicians in the commerce of the eastern Mediterranean (about 1000 B. C.) were the Greeks. The nature of their country, at once sterile and abounding in harbors, both turned them from the land and

invited them to the sea. They consequently swarmed forth, at first toward Asia Minor, then toward Africa and the West, till every shore from Massilia (Marseilles) eastward was studded with Greek colonies. When the conquests of Alexander the Great (334-323 B. C.) had settled in their favor the long duel with Persia, Greek cities sprang up as if by magic over all western Asia; and Greek became the general language of commerce, even in Tyre and Sidon. Finally the Romans in the same year (146 B. C.) incorporated Greece in the Roman Empire and destroyed Carthage, thereby opening to Grecian commerce the western Mediterranean.

The principal commercial cities during the days of Greek independence were Corinth and Athens. After Alexander, the center of gravity of the Greek world moved eastward. Rhodes soon superseded Athens as a center of sea-borne commerce; Antioch on the Orontes drew the overland trade from Mesopotamia; and Alexandria became, after the fall of Carthage, the commercial metropolis of the world.

The commercial prosperity of Alexandria, located in a country so isolated by nature as Egypt, was due to artificial means of transportation. A good road was built over an ancient caravan trail from Coptos on the eastward bend of the Nile, below the First Cataract, to Leukos Limen (Kosseir) on the Red Sea, and the canal connecting the Nile with the Red Sea, which Seti I had begun, was opened more than a thousand years later (third century B. C.) by Ptolemy II. This forerunner of the Suez Canal remained in use until A. D. 761. Alexandria, near the mouth of the Nile, consequently became the great distributing point for the sea-borne trade of the Orient. For upstream traffic, the northeast trade winds furnished power, while boats came down stream with the current.

The staple imports of Egypt were silk, spices, pearls and other jewels from the Far East; myrrh and frankincense from Arabia; gold and ivory from East Africa. The goods exported in payment comprised amber and furs derived from northern Europe, also wine, glass, linen, arms, and slaves,

besides much gold and silver. It was thus essentially a commerce in luxuries and as such enormously profitable.

9. **The Roman Empire.** Rome was an inland city grown great by centuries of conquest. The Romans therefore hated the sea, which ever remained for them *mare dissociabile*—the sea that separates—and they despised commerce as the work of slaves. Men and money were the only commodities they deigned to handle. Trade was consequently left in the main to subject peoples—Greeks, Syrians, and Jews. Rome with all its immense population and wealth thus remained a political rather than a commercial center, a city “consuming much and producing little,”<sup>1</sup> supported in the main by the tribute (in grain or money) of the provinces. Only in financial operations did it hold a leading place.

In two respects, however Rome rendered important services to commerce. The great military highways, radiating from the Golden Milestone in the Roman Forum to the ends of the empire, gave better facilities for overland trade than ever existed elsewhere before the days of railways. And the *Pax Romana*—the Peace of Rome—which long reigned on all the shores of the Mediterranean afforded a security for commerce hitherto unknown.

10. **Character of Mediæval Commerce.** After the final division of the Roman Empire (A. D. 395), and the fall of the portion ruled from Italy (A. D. 476), western Europe relapsed into barbarism. Wants were consequently few and simple. Every district, even every estate, was expected to be self-supporting. Moreover, there were “sea wolves” and “land wolves” to prey on the luckless merchant. The roads, never being repaired, grew constantly worse for the next thousand years. Commerce was thus forced to follow the rivers; and when the feudal system had split Europe into thousands of petty states, there were toll stations on the rivers every few miles. In these circumstances only the demand of the nobility and clergy for luxuries kept alive a precarious trade.

<sup>1</sup>Cons. *Précis d'Histoire du Commerce*, pp. 59, 64; Day, *History of Commerce*, p. 26.



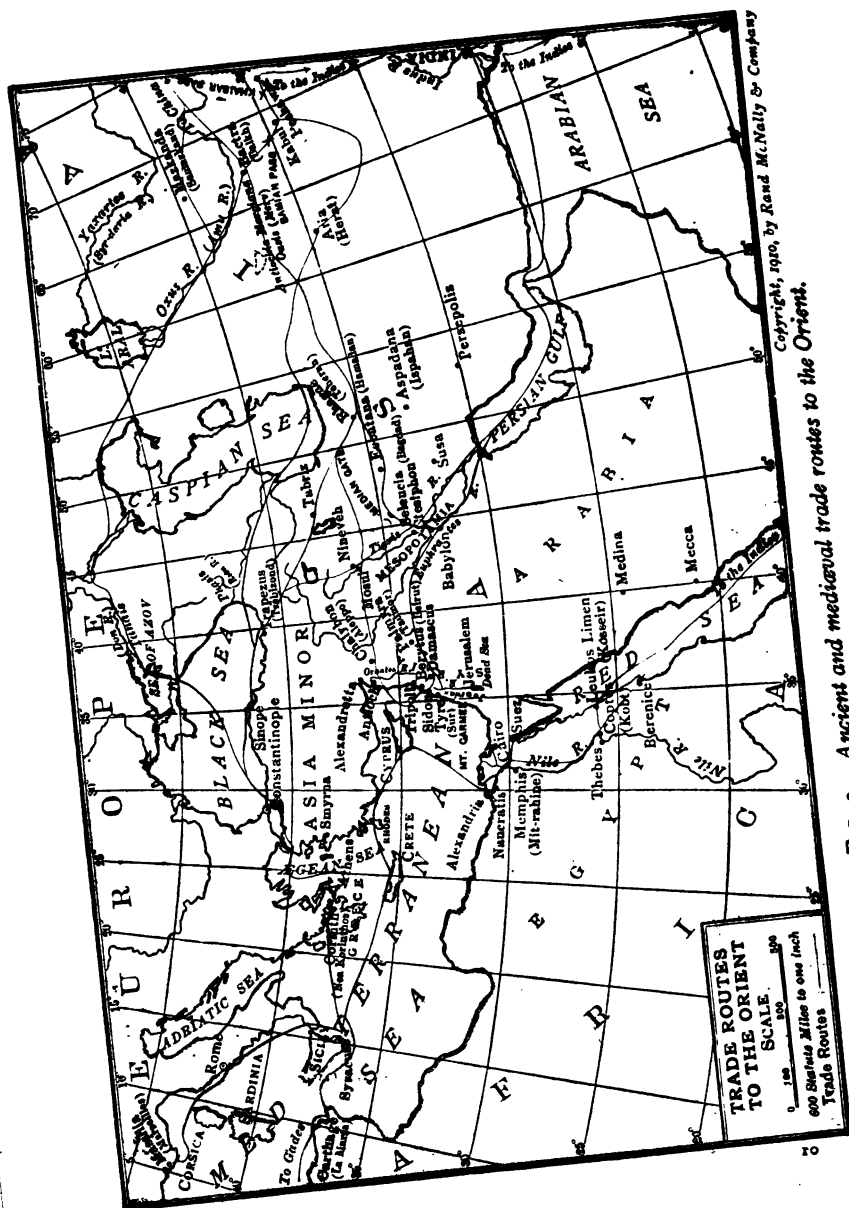
**11. Mediæval Fairs.** Such difficulties in transportation made it doubly necessary to fix certain dates when the buyers and sellers of any article, such as furs, could be sure of meeting. This necessity gave rise to annual fairs, like those held at Stourbridge (Cambridge) in England, at Frankfurt and Leipzig in Germany, and at Troyes and other towns in the French province of Champagne.

These fairs, like the fairs of the ancient world, were usually held in connection with some religious festival, which served to bring people together and in a measure to ward off hostile attacks. Fairs formed the chief seats of wholesale trade until increasing density of population and ease of transportation rendered them unnecessary. In the less progressive parts of the world, where the railroad, telegraph, and commercial traveler are little in evidence, fairs still retain their pristine importance. The most important fair in modern Europe is doubtless that of Nizhniy Novgorod.

Even in advanced commercial countries there are annual agricultural fairs, and occasional international expositions or "World's Fairs," which exercise a marked influence both on education and on commerce.

**12. The Levant before the Crusades.** The Levant, embracing the lands washed by the eastern Mediterranean, was ruled (after A. D. 330) from Constantinople. This empire, Roman in name, Greek in language, reached the climax of its prosperity and splendor during the ninth and tenth centuries, while western Europe lay buried in squalor and ignorance.

The principal factor in this prosperity was trade with the Orient, especially in silk, which was imported raw, woven into exquisite fabrics at Constantinople or Antioch, and exported again to all parts of the known world. During the early Middle Ages (before A. D. 1000), the bulk of the raw silk came overland, because the sea route from China was long and, for the vessels then in use, extremely dangerous. After the Arab conquest of Egypt (A. D. 640), Constantinople,



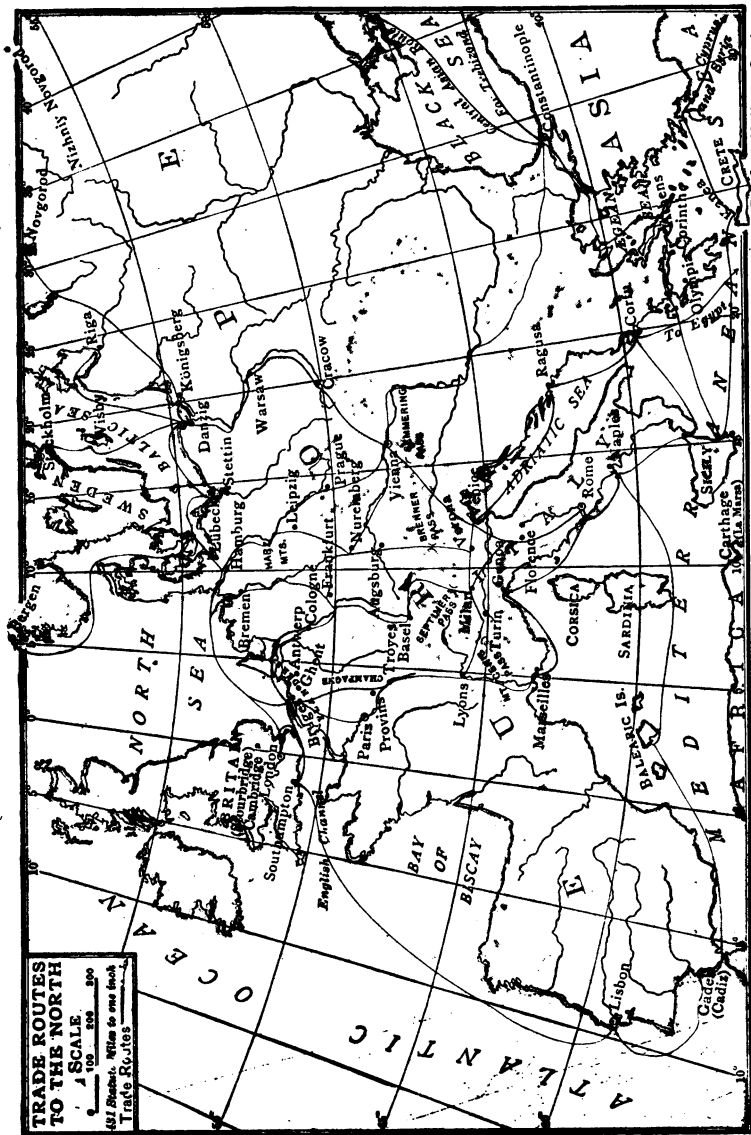


FIG. 4. Medieval trade routes to the North from the Mediterranean.  
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commanding all routes to the Far East by way of the Black Sea, succeeded Alexandria as the undisputed commercial capital of the world. (Fig. 3.)

**13. Rise of the Italian Cities.** After A. D. 1000, a great change began. Larger vessels, possibly also some crude form of the compass, enabled the sea route from China around southern Asia to compete with the overland routes. Constantinople, Bagdad, and the row of caravan cities eastward to Balkh, where the Chinese and Indian roads diverged, at once began to stagnate. Constantinople also suffered from the fact of lying too far east to serve the western markets created by the silver mines of Germany, then newly opened, or to profit by the rising woolen and metal industries of Italy and Flanders (Belgium).

For these reasons the cities of Italy became at first the rivals, then the successors, of Constantinople. The Crusades confirmed their supremacy, bringing them a veritable "commercial boom" through the demand for equipment and for transportation by sea of men and supplies. Venice and Genoa were even able to pull down and set up emperors at Constantinople precisely as the nations of Europe have in recent years striven for mastery at Peking. Venice finally became, after the capture of Constantinople by crusaders in her service (1204), incontestably the leading commercial city in the world.

**14. The Commerce of Northern Europe.** Since the earliest times, the amber of the Baltic, the tin of Britain, and the furs of the northern forests had found their way along the rivers to the Mediterranean. How important furs were in commerce may be judged from the fact that throughout the Middle Ages the houses of even the nobles and princes entirely lacked heat in winter. Furs were also a staple export to the Orient, being then as now extensively worn by the upper classes in China.

In the later Middle Ages (after 1250), the trade of the North (Fig. 4) fell under the control of the Hanse. This was a

powerful league of some ninety cities, extending from Bruges to Novgorod, with its capital at Lübeck. To the early exports were added fish, hides, silver and copper from the Harz region, and iron from Sweden. The imports were chiefly articles of luxury, above all, silks and spices.

This new commercial realm, centered on the Baltic and North seas, found its chief outlet on the Mediterranean through the port of Venice. Along the roads running north from Venice, just as along the Asian caravan roads, there flourished a series of great commercial cities whose prosperity was builded almost entirely on the oriental commerce that passed through their gates.

**15. The Shifting of Trade Routes.** Ancient and mediæval vessels, being flat bottomed, could sail only with the wind, or else laboriously work their way against it with huge oars. Toward the close of the Middle Ages, however, the keel, invented probably by the Northmen, worked a revolution in navigation hardly less important than has followed the use of steam. By enabling vessels to sail almost into the eye of the wind, the keel made possible for the first time deep-sea, in place of coastwise, navigation.

Early in the fourteenth century, the compass also came into general use in the West. The sea route from Italy to Flanders then began to prevail decisively over the land route. This meant indeed the stagnation of all those cities which had lived on the overland trade. On the other hand, the sea route, touching at Lisbon and the English Channel ports, prepared the way for those nations to enter the commercial arena on their own account. The great emporium for the trade between Italy and the North was for several centuries Bruges; but later (after 1442) Antwerp took the lead because it was accessible to larger vessels and imposed fewer restrictions on foreign traders.

Finally, the conquests of the Turks, fierce nomads from central Asia, who began as hired soldiers of the Caliphs and ended as their masters, blocked up one after another all the

ancient routes to the East. First western Asia (1058), then Constantinople (1453), and lastly Egypt (1520) fell into their hands. In the meantime, this virtual blockade caused the prices of oriental goods in Europe to rise by leaps and bounds, thus offering enormous profits to any one who should find a new and cheaper route to the East. This condition of the market was the impelling motive of the great voyages of discovery which ended the Mediterranean, and introduced the Oceanic Age of Commerce.

**16. The World Faces the Atlantic.** When Vasco da Gama reached India by sea (1498), the world changed front in a day. Hitherto it had faced the Mediterranean. On its shores civilization had largely developed. There empires had risen and decayed. There also a succession of great cities, the homes of wealth, learning, and art, had flourished, fed by the never-ceasing stream of commerce between the East and the West. Now for the first time that stream was diverted from its previous course, and forthwith decay fell upon the teeming cities, and silence upon the crowded roads.

The same disaster overtook cities beyond the Alps which had lived on the trade between Italy and the North. Whoever wandered in the streets of picturesque and sleepy Nuremberg after this trade had departed, where the rooks wheeled about the gables that were once, as Longfellow reminds us, the home of art and song, learned in a most impressive manner how cities are made and unmade by the shifting of trade routes.<sup>1</sup>

What the Mediterranean lost the Atlantic gained. It became henceforth the great highway of commerce; in its ports the products of the East and West met for exchange. The commercial supremacy of the world passed to its shores to be contested and successively held by the Portuguese, Spaniards, Dutch, and English.

<sup>1</sup>Could Longfellow revisit Nuremberg to-day he would find it still picturesque, but no longer sleepy. The Suez Canal, the Alpine tunnels, and the railways have made it again the focus of important trade routes.

**17. Character of Modern Commerce.** With this transfer of commercial supremacy to the Atlantic, the Oceanic Age began. At that time commerce was mainly confined to articles of



Courtesy of Swift and Company

FIG. 5. *Interior of a general office: This suggests something of the vast and complicated organization required to handle the enormous volume of modern commerce.*

luxury used by the few; to-day it supplies the necessities of all. This stupendous revolution has been brought about by the application of the powers of Nature to the processes of manufacture and transportation<sup>1</sup>. The world as we know it to-day is largely the creation of steam and electricity. (Fig. 5.)

<sup>1</sup>During the last two centuries, according to a recent estimate (Day, *History of Commerce*, pp. 270, 271) the foreign commerce of all commercial countries has increased as follows:

Year	Millions of Dollars	Year	Dollars per Capita
1700	125	1800	2.31
1750	250	1840	2.93
1800	1,500	1860	6.01
1893	19,000	1898	13.27

### III—HOW COMMERCE DEPENDS ON LAND AND SEA

*"Tell me the geography of a country and I will tell you its future."*  
—Victor Cousin.

**18. What Man Owes to Nature.** No man by taking thought can add a cubit to his stature; still less can he make good any great deficiency in the natural resources of his country. Thus he can fish only where there is water, lumber only where there are trees, mine only where there are minerals, devote himself to agriculture, manufactures, or commerce only where natural conditions render these pursuits commercially possible. For the greater part of what he enjoys man thus remains directly or indirectly the pensioner of Nature. Most justly, therefore, and with profound insight into the relation of man and the earth, did the Greeks speak of "Mother Earth."

**19. Factors in the Natural Control of Industry and Commerce.** All aspects of Nature doubtless react upon man to some extent. The factors however which affect most directly his mode of livelihood are: the character of the soil; the topography or surface features of the earth; the coast line; the climate; and the natural resources, notably fish, forests, grasslands, minerals, and water power.

**20. Civilization Based on the Soil.** The soil is the foundation of all permanent prosperity. Unless the soil be reasonably fertile, agriculture is impossible; and without agriculture there can be no enduring civilization and therefore no extensive commerce. Gold populated California and built cities as if by magic; but wheat and fruit have long since become the basis of California's prosperity. As with mining, so with lumbering; the forests once cut away, the lumber camps and towns are deserted, and the country relapses into wilderness until such time as a new forest shall have grown to merchantable size, unless the soil be fit for farming.



**21. The Kinds of Soil.** The soil comes in the main from rocks which have crumbled to pieces through long exposure to the weather.

As to its physical character, soil varies by almost imperceptible gradations from coarse gravel to fine clay. For practical purposes, however, it is usually classified as sandy, loamy, or clayey.<sup>1</sup>

A sandy soil consists for the most part of relatively large, rounded particles, usually derived from very hard rocks. It is "light" or easily worked; and it is "warm" or readily heated by the sun in the spring, for which reason a sandy soil is well suited to early vegetables. It is, however, so porous that it does not hold rainfall well; and it is comparatively poor in accessible plant food.

A loamy soil is intermediate in character, containing both sand and clay in fairly equal proportions.

A clay soil consists in the main of very fine particles, derived usually from shale or other soft rocks. Not being so porous as sand it holds water well, which is an advantage in dry regions or seasons. A clay soil is "heavy" or hard to work, and is "cold" or slow to warm up in the spring; but it is the most fertile, and the most lasting in its fertility, of all types of soil. The regions which form the world's granaries and those which support the densest population by agriculture have largely clay soils.

**22. Organic Matter in Soil.** Finally, the soil depends for its fertility not only on its physical character and mineral constituents, but also to perhaps an equal degree on the organic matter which it contains. Undecayed organic matter (peat) is indeed a hindrance to tillage; but decayed or decaying vegetation (humus) renders the soil more open and porous, so that air and water can more easily reach the roots, and it greatly increases the available plant food. It is largely owing to vegetable humus in the soil that districts recently covered by deciduous forests, and likewise prairies

<sup>1</sup>King, *The Soil*, p. 100.

where the grasses have flourished and decayed for ages, are for a time so very fertile when brought under the plow.

**23. Formation and Transportation of Soil.** As to its method of formation, soil is either residual or transported. Residual soil was formed on the spot from the decay of the rocks lying directly beneath, and of course varies in character with those rocks. South of the Ohio, for example, where most of the soil is residual, it is much more fertile over limestone than over sandstone.

In many parts of the world the soil has been transported far from its place of origin by running water, by glaciers, or by the winds. The lower valleys of great rivers, for instance, are commonly covered with alluvial soil, deposited by the rivers at flood time. Other vast areas, like most of America north of the Ohio River, have glacial soils, deposited in former ages by melting glaciers. Still other districts have loess, or wind-borne soil. For example, the loess beds of northern China, thousands of feet thick, were brought by the prevailing west winds of winter from the arid uplands of central Asia and deposited where a moister climate was encountered. These transported soils, though differing greatly from one another in fertility, are alike in that they usually contain fragments of many kinds of rock, and are therefore less quickly exhausted by tillage than are the residual soils.

**24. How Lowlands Affect Agriculture.** The "everlasting hills" are not in fact everlasting; for every rain and every stream carries a load of soil from the highlands toward the lowlands, lowering the one and filling up the other. Even the cloud-capped mountains would eventually be worn down almost to sea level if the mountain-building forces should cease their work.

Lowlands, being thus supplied with fine soil at the expense of the uplands, are the principal sources of the world's food supply. For this reason more than three-fourths of all the people in the world live at elevations of less than 1,000 feet. The most productive and most densely-peopled agricultural

regions are naturally the deltas and valleys of great rivers like the Nile and Ganges, which constantly bring down fresh soil. Within the Tropics, however, fertile river valleys are frequently so unhealthful as to be very sparsely peopled. This is the condition of the Amazon Valley. (Fig. 13.)

#### **25. How Lowlands Affect Transportation and Commerce.**

Lowland rivers, having considerable volume and a slight fall, usually afford cheap transportation, and they can frequently be connected by canals. The level surface also favors railroad construction, unless too low or too level for good drainage. In districts subject to overflow, however, the roads and even the railways keep to the ridges, as in parts of the Red River Valley, where the beaches of former Lake Agassiz form natural driveways.

Owing to their fertility, dense agricultural population, and cheap transportation facilities, lowlands are the principal seats of manufactures and of commerce.

#### **26. How High Plains Affect Commerce.**

High plains or plateaus are frequently edged by mountains so that the winds are drained of moisture before reaching the plateaus. In such cases they are suited for grazing rather than agriculture, like the Great Basin west of the Rockies, and contribute to commerce chiefly wool, hides, and other animal products. But plateaus which are fairly well watered, like those in tropical America, sometimes support a dense agricultural population.

Being relatively level, high plains hinder transportation only if difficult of access from the lowlands, or if intersected by a profound gorge like the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. If too wide to bridge, such a gorge is in fact impassable for commerce, and may compel a detour of hundreds of miles.

As a rule transportation routes follow valleys which offer the easiest grades. But if a plateau has been deeply cut into by rivers, roads and railways sometimes follow the divides between the rivers, since these retain the generally level surface of the original plateau. The Allegheny Plateau affords many illustrations of this principle, notably in eastern Kentucky.

**27. How Upland Valleys Affect Agriculture and Transportation.** Broad valleys and valley basins between parallel mountain ranges, being covered in large part with fine soil washed from higher levels, are fertile, and therefore well peopled. Excellent examples are the "parks" of Colorado. Even richer in soil are the beds of former lakes, like the basin surrounding Great Salt Lake, where the finest and most fertile particles of soil that were washed from the surrounding uplands were deposited.

Valleys that cut across mountain ranges furnish the usual routes of railways (Fig. 6), which follow one stream to its head and another stream down the opposite



FIG. 6. *How rivers prepare the way for railways—Royal Gorge, Grand Canyon of the Arkansas.*

slope, crossing the intervening divide by tunnel or at the lowest pass. Like islands containing harbors in mid-ocean, such mountain passes are individually important in proportion as they are far apart.

Where a river cuts through a mountain range, the valley usually contracts to a narrow water gap; and since all trade

and travel up or down the valley is here brought to a focus, a water gap is apt to be marked by a town or city. A good example is Harpers Ferry, located where the Potomac makes its way through the Blue Ridge. Sometimes after cutting a water gap, a river is somehow diverted from its course leaving what is called a "wind gap." Such was the origin of many passes famous in history, like Cumberland Gap between Virginia and Kentucky. (Fig. 59.)

### **28. How Mountains Affect Agriculture and Transportation.**

Broken plateaus and mountain slopes are adapted to forests or grazing, rather than to agriculture. The soil is thin and poor at best, and if loosened by the plow, it is speedily swept away by the rains. Moreover, machinery cannot be used to advantage, nor can crops be readily marketed. Farmers in such a region consequently live a wretched life of poverty and ignorance from generation to generation, retaining ideas, tools, and methods long since abandoned in the plains. On the other hand mountain-born rivers in traversing arid regions, like those adjacent to the Rockies, furnish the water to irrigate large tracts of land in their valleys.

Mountains which serve as watersheds determine the course of rivers and river valleys, and therefore, in great measure, of commerce. Mountains, moreover, usually lack navigable water ways and good wagon roads. They even exact a heavy tribute from railroads in the shape of expensive bridges, rock cuts, tunnels, snowsheds, constant repairs, extra engines and fuel, and light train loads. Man is far from having conquered the mountains for purposes of transportation, as he has conquered the plains and the sea.

### **29. Relation of Mountains to Mining and Manufactures.**

Mountain streams, fed by snows and rains upon the higher levels and descending with rapid current, usually furnish abundant water power.

Again, mountains are frequently the seat of mining. Here are found the best building materials, such as granite, slate, and marble. Here also the ancient crystalline rocks, deeply

buried elsewhere, have been brought to light by upheaval and the erosion of running water. It is in such rocks that the ores of gold, silver, copper, and other metals usually occur. Furthermore, the best grades of coal are, as a rule, found in or near the mountains, because the heat and pressure generated by mountain building have driven off the volatile parts of the coal, leaving a large proportion of fixed carbon.

By reason of water power, metals, and mineral fuels, manufacturing cities not infrequently develop at the foot of mountains. Thus Birmingham, Ala., owes its existence to the vast stores of coal and iron in the adjacent hills. (Fig. 92.)

**30. How Mountains Affect Climate.** Finally, lofty mountains force the air passing over them to ascend and become

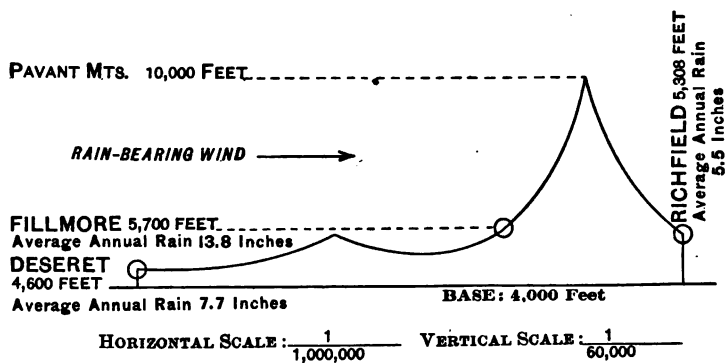


FIG. 7. Profile sketch showing relation of mountains to rainfall in Utah.

chilled, thus causing rainfall on the side toward the prevailing winds, but an arid region on the opposite side. (Fig. 7.) They also break somewhat the force of the winds, whether warm or cold. Mountains thus control in great measure the climate, and therefore the industries, of the neighboring plains for hundreds or even thousands of miles. So it is with the Sierra Nevada and Cascade ranges.

**31. Relation of Forests to Man.** The forest primeval ranks almost with the mountains in its effect on man, on his mode of livelihood, and consequently on commerce.

To the early settlers in America, the forest seemed merely a hiding place for wild beasts and hostile Indians. To fell the forests and let in the light therefore came to be regarded as a conquest achieved over a common enemy of man and of civilization. Something of this feeling still persists on the frontier and the pioneer in forested regions still swings his ax with vindictive force, though the forest, so far from being the enemy, has long since been recognized as the best friend of man. Nevertheless, so rapid and so thorough has been the work of destruction that the day is now at hand in this country when the mighty forests prepared by Nature through a thousand years will have disappeared.

### 32. How Forests Affect Soil, Water Power, and Navigation.

Forests not only enrich the soil through decaying vegetation, but they also protect it from rapid erosion. What is perhaps still more important, the mat of forest vegetation, both above and below ground, serves as a sponge to absorb and hold the rain and melting snow. The water consequently sinks into the earth and issues gradually in springs, in place of rushing at once into the rivers. In this way, forests equalize the flow of rivers, moderating both floods and droughts and conserving the rivers for purposes of irrigation, water power, and navigation during all seasons of the year.

How important these services are may be judged from the results of deforestation, especially in the hilly parts of the South, where the ground is not protected by frost from the heavy rains of winter. (Fig. 8.) One may see there from the car window thousands upon thousands of acres already stripped of soil by the rains and turned into "bad lands," as useless to man for all time to come as though sunk beneath the sea.<sup>1</sup> Moreover, the valleys, wherever the forests have been cut away, are increasingly ravaged by floods; while water powers, estimated at over a million horse power and worth \$20,000,000 a year, are endangered.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Shaler, in U. S. Geological Survey, *Report, 1891*, vol. iv, pt. 1, p. 332.

<sup>2</sup>United States Forest Service, *Circulars*, 143, 144.

**33. How Forests Affect the Climate.** Again, a forested land is cooler in summer and warmer in winter than a treeless surface. As a result of this fact great forests, sheltering the soil from the burning heat of summer and the biting winds of winter, have something of the same effect as the ocean in moderating extremes of climate.<sup>1</sup> Moreover, a forested surface, cooled by constant evaporation, is a better condenser of moisture, and therefore less liable to prolonged drought, than a surface of bare rocks or of sun-baked soil.



Courtesy of Department of Agriculture

**FIG. 8.** *Hillside ruined by erosion, where the forest had been cut away.*

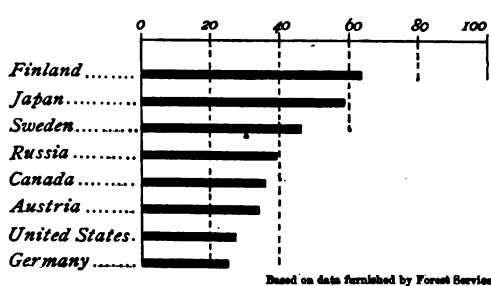
**34. Economic Importance of Forestry.** Finally, forests are as necessary to civilization as grain fields; and, considering the quality of land suitable for forests, they can be made as profitable. Cheap lumber has been a potent factor in the rapid development of the United States, especially the western prairies; and a timber famine, such as now impends, must needs lay a crushing tax on American industry and commerce.

It is therefore imperative that a scientific system of forestry be followed in lumbering, whereby the young trees may

<sup>1</sup>Forest Service, *Bulletin 7, Forest Influences.*



be saved to perpetuate the forest, wherever the soil is too stony or sandy or the slope is too steep for farming. In fact, millions of acres of the uplands in the United States, now



Based on data furnished by Forest Service

FIG. 9. Per cent of area forested in chief timber-producing countries.

denuded of timber, would best serve the uses of man if permanently reforested. Already the proportion of forested area in the United States has fallen almost as low as in Germany. (Fig. 9.)

**35. How Coast Lines Affect Commerce.** It is said that there is no place in Greece more than fifty miles, and no place in England more than seventy miles, from the sea. This fact goes far to explain why Greece was the first part of Europe to become civilized, and why England now leads the world in commerce. Europe as a whole is likewise greatly indented by arms of the sea, giving it a much longer coast line in proportion to its size, and helping to give it a much larger commerce, than any other continent. At the other extreme stands Africa, still the "Dark Continent" in large part because the coast line is singularly unbroken, which has hindered the access of civilizing influences from over sea.

The accessibility of the land from the sea affects commerce perhaps even more than the extent of coast line. Harborless coasts as a rule have little share in commerce. By reason of easy access to the sea, islands have often played a part in history and in commerce out of all proportion to their size. The Grecian Islands, Great Britain, and Japan are examples.

**36. The Formation of Harbors.** The continents, which seem so firm, are in fact in a state of very unstable equilibrium, now rising slowly through centuries and again sinking. A coast which has sunk considerably in recent geological

time is favorable to commerce, because the lower valleys are drowned beneath the sea. This is the origin of most important inlets such as Chesapeake Bay and Puget Sound. Conversely, an uplifted coast is unfavorable to commerce, because it lacks such inlets, and is often bordered by dangerous shoals.

Some rocky coasts, like Maine and Alaska, are pierced by fiord harbors, that is, valleys eroded deep below the water line by former glaciers. But such harbors are often backed by rugged and unproductive country, which cannot support a large commerce. This condition is illustrated by Norway.



FIG. 10. *Part of English Harbor, Fanning Island.*

On many coasts barrier harbors occur, sheltered by small islands, as at Boston (Fig. 74); or sand bars, as at Galveston; or coral reefs, as in the Bermudas. An atoll harbor consists of such a reef partly inclosing a lagoon, as in Fanning Island (Fig. 10), now a station on the cable from Canada to Australia.



FIG. 11. *Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.*

On volcanic coasts are sometimes found crater harbors, formed by the sea breaking into an extinct volcano. Perhaps the finest example in the world is Pago Pago Harbor (Fig. 11) in American Samoa.

Where natural harbors

are lacking or inadequate and the water is not too deep, artificial harbors may be formed, at great cost, by erecting breakwaters, as has been done at San Pedro, Cal. (Fig. 126.) Even the best natural harbors are in part artificial since they require more or less improvement to fit them for the immense vessels now in use.

**37. How Location Affects Commerce.** Napoleon once declared war to be "a matter of positions." In commerce, as in war, success depends largely on the positions held by the contending parties. It was the favorable location of Venice



FIG. 12. *Where land and water transportation meet. Bird's-eye view of the Reading Terminals at Philadelphia.*

and the Netherlands, backed by the splendid energy and daring of their people, which made them for many generations the leading commercial nations of the world.

The seats of commerce are located at places clearly designated by nature—"at the crossroads of the great world thoroughfares."

**38. The Termini of Ocean Routes.** Such crossroads are found in a preëminent sense, wherever ocean and land transportation meet; that is, where goods brought by sea are landed and those brought by land are transferred to ships. The great

markets of the world are therefore seaports, located either at the head of ocean navigation on rivers, as London, Hamburg, Antwerp, Montreal, Philadelphia (Fig. 12), Baltimore, New Orleans, or else at the head of bays having good connections inland, as Boston, New York, and San Francisco.

Important seaports, serving as entrepôts, or distributing points, are likewise found wherever many lines of ocean transportation meet; for many goods are there landed and transhipped. Hong-kong and Singapore are good examples. Such entrepôts also arise where a narrow isthmus separates important bodies of water (Corinth, Panama).

**39. The Termini of Inland Water Routes.** Commercial cities likewise arise away from the seacoast wherever land and water transportation meet. This occurs near the heads of the Great Lakes, as at Duluth, Superior, and Chicago. It occurs also at the head of river navigation (Trenton, St. Paul); where several rivers and river valleys converge (St. Louis, Pittsburg); near falls or rapids which impede navigation (Louisville); at the bridge nearest the mouth of a great river (Memphis); and where a great bend occurs in an important river or river valley (Cincinnati, Kansas City).

What a vital part water transportation plays in commerce may be judged from the fact that of the twenty largest cities in the United States, nine are on the coast, five on the Great Lakes, five on the Mississippi and the Ohio, and one on the Potomac.

**40. The Crossing of Land Routes.** Finally, important cities are also created by the meeting of several lines of land transportation, that is, of caravan routes or railways. Such centers of population are fixed, not less than harbor and river cities, by the surface of the country. They are either in the center of extensive plains, where the lines of trade and travel from all directions cross (Indianapolis), or they stand at the focus of radiating mountain passes. This sort of location, which built Vienna, Turin, and Milan, is equally responsible for Atlanta and Denver.

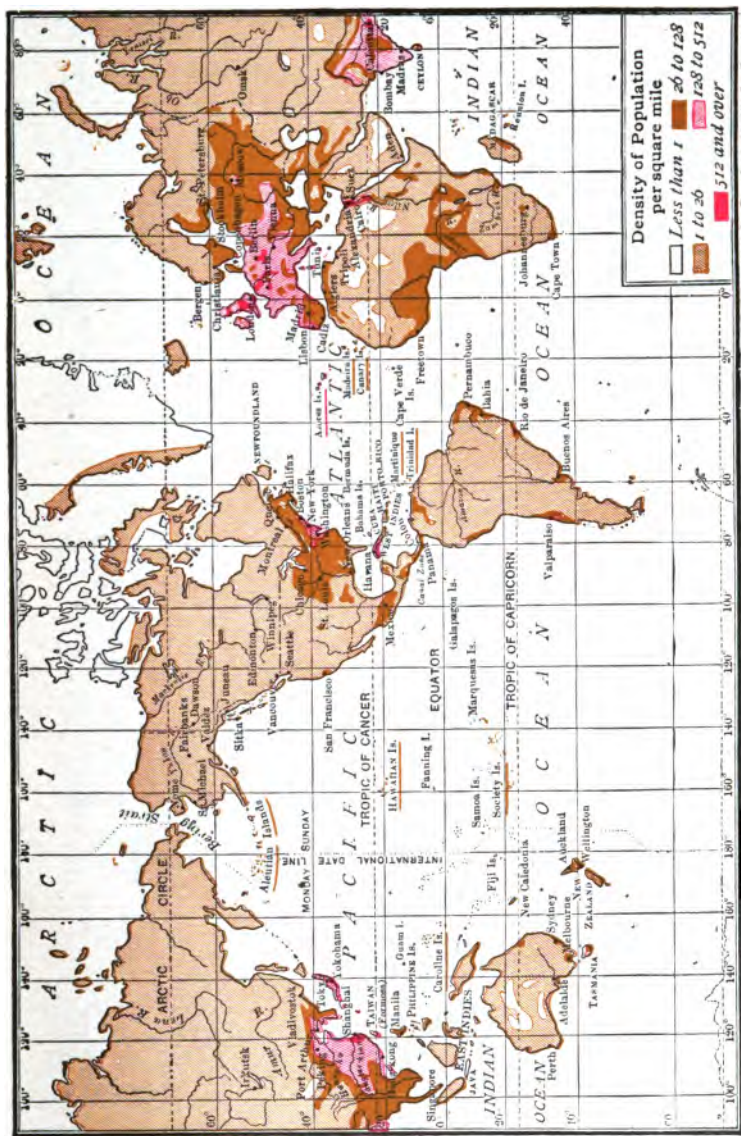
**41. Typical Military, Naval, and Commercial Sites.** In contrast, therefore, to military cities, which were perched upon hills (Athens, Rome), the chief seats of commerce are found in the lowlands. Moreover in contrast to naval ports, which are located by preference at the extremities of peninsulas so as to have the longest radius of action by sea, commercial ports lie at the inner ends of bays so as to shorten the more expensive transportation by land. Brest in France, Pola in Austria, and the Dry Tortugas near Key West in Florida, are thus typical locations for naval ports; precisely as Le Havre, Trieste, and Mobile are for commercial ports.

**42. The Paths of Ocean Commerce.** The ocean can, indeed, be navigated in any direction, while a train must follow the rails. This is one great advantage of ocean transportation. Nevertheless there are certain routes, connecting the principal commercial countries, which are always thronged with vessels, while other parts of the ocean seldom see a sail. (Fig. 14.)

Ocean trade routes rarely follow a straight line. Even steamships shape their course more or less by the winds and currents, since they may gain or lose fifty miles a day in this way. Again, the fogs and icebergs of the North Atlantic force vessels to follow a southerly course part of the year. Finally, projecting capes such as São Roque, Good Hope, and Horn modify all routes in their vicinity, while isthmuses such as Panama cause a detour of thousands of miles.

Ocean trade routes are also controlled in a positive way by the location of much-frequented channels or ship canals connecting different seas; above all by the English and Florida channels, the Strait of Malacca, the Suez Canal, the Dardanelles, and the Strait of Gibraltar. To these must be added, when finished, the Panama Canal.

Thus the barriers which limit commerce to-day are not water barriers, as in the ages before man had mastered navigation, but land barriers.



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FIG. 13 Density of the population of the world per square mile.

Data from Bartholomew's Atlas of the World's Commerce



#### IV—HOW COMMERCE DEPENDS ON CLIMATE

**43. Climate.** Even more than soil, surface, or coast line, climate controls the industry and commerce of nations. In fact, it limits absolutely all natural products except minerals. And nothing shakes the commercial world to its foundations like a series of crop failures, due to unfavorable climatic conditions, such as prevailed in the West before the panic of 1893.

Climate is simply the average of weather conditions; and its elements are heat, light, moisture, and wind. These factors taken together make up all the climatic differences between Alaska and the Sahara.

**44. Why It Rains.** Nothing in nature is more impressive than the dependence of human occupations on moisture. The most arid desert, as a rule, lacks nothing but rainfall to make it blossom as the rose; and the most fertile farm land would speedily lapse into desert were the rain to cease. The causes which produce or hinder rainfall are therefore potent influences in the commerce of the world. (Fig. 15.)

It is a fact (or law) of nature that warm air can hold more moisture than cold air.<sup>1</sup> In general, therefore, anything which chills the air considerably will tend to cause rain or snow, while, conversely, air absorbs more moisture as it grows warmer. The conditions are thus favorable for rainfall: (1) when the air rises, as in passing over mountains or in approaching the centers of low atmospheric pressure<sup>2</sup> which travel from west to east in the Temperate zones; (2) when it blows from the sea toward a cooler land, as on the western coast of Europe in winter; (3) when it blows away from the equator, as in the region of prevailing southwesterly winds north of latitude 40°N.

<sup>1</sup>Salisbury, *Physiography*, Advanced Course, p. 569.

<sup>2</sup>See one of the maps issued by the Weather Bureau.  
(29)



On the other hand, drought is produced by a pronounced current of air moving: (1) toward the equator, as in the trade-wind belt (Sahara); (2) from higher to lower levels, like the Chinook wind which, descending from the Rocky Mountains, evaporates the heaviest snowfall almost over night; (3) from a colder sea toward a warmer land, as in parts of southwest Africa washed by a cold ocean current.

The west coasts in Temperate zones, the east coasts in the Tropics, receive the prevailing winds fresh from the sea, the principal source of moisture. They are consequently as a rule the best-watered parts of the continents.

**45. Causes Affecting Heat and Light.** Heat is necessary for life; without it there could be no commerce. If need be, parts of a country can be irrigated; but no country can be artificially heated.

The temperature of a region depends on several factors, the most important being its latitude or distance from the equator. (Fig. 16.) Latitude affects the temperature not because the sun is materially nearer at the equator, but because, as you go away from the equator, the rays of the sun strike less perpendicularly. The same explanation holds for the greater heat of summer, and likewise for the fact that hillsides facing the sun are somewhat warmer than level lands. It is for this reason that vineyards are found as a rule on the southern slope in Europe, but on the northern slope in Australia.

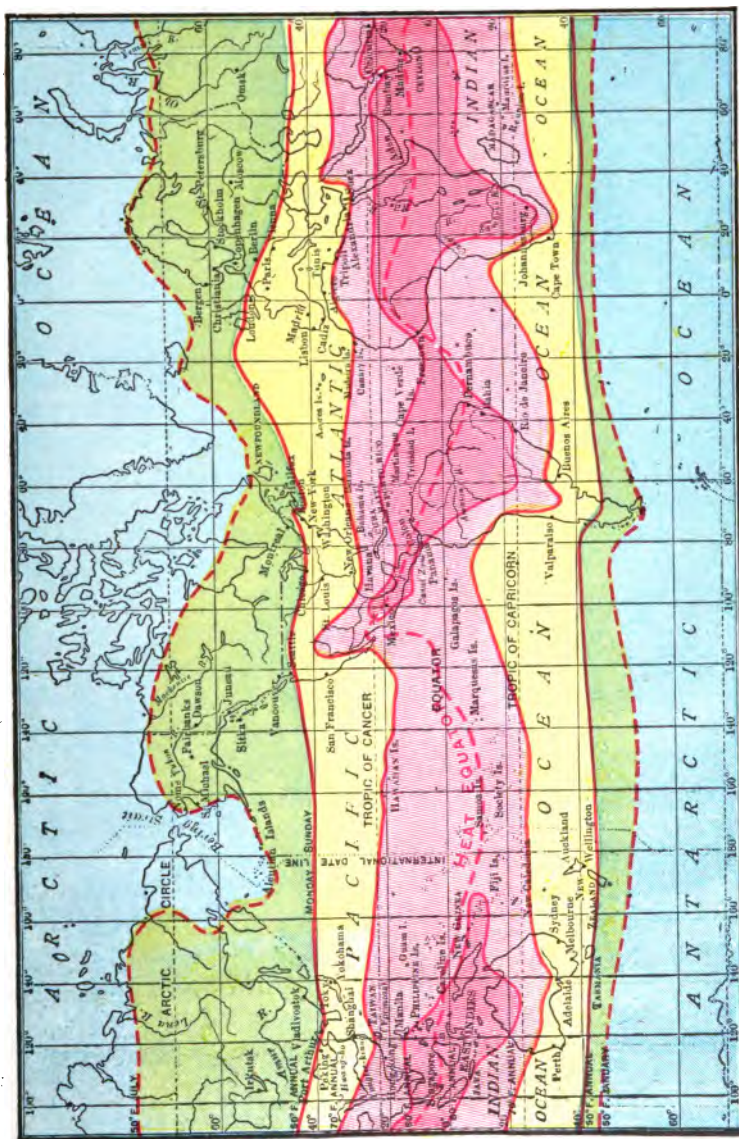
The second factor is altitude or elevation above sea level. Its effect may be thus roughly expressed:

320 feet elevation = 1 degree of latitude = 1 degree F.<sup>1</sup>

A climb up a mountain side in the Tropics to snow line would thus carry one through the same temperature and vegetation belts as a journey from the equator to the Arctic region—a fact of vital import for the future of the white race in the Tropics.

The third factor affecting temperature is the sea, which changes its temperature much more slowly than the land

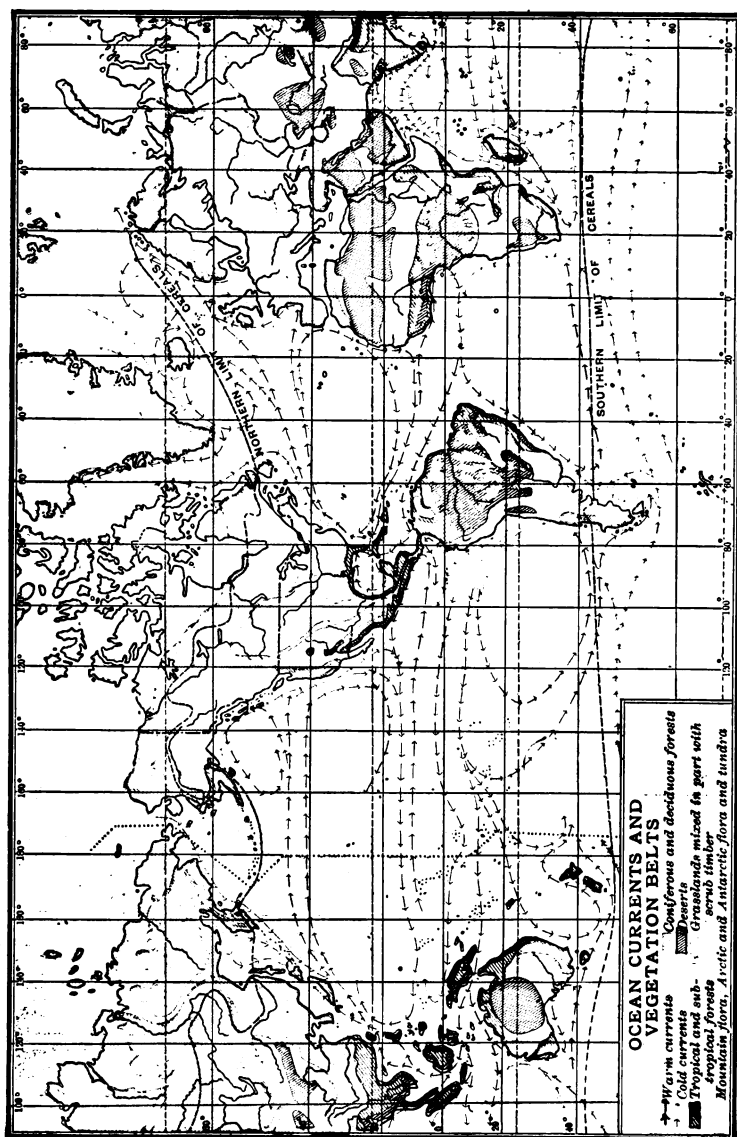
<sup>1</sup>Hann, *Climatology*. The data are 100 meters = 0.57° C., or 328.08 feet = 1.026° F. Also 50° latitude in the Northern Hemisphere = 50.94° F.; in Southern = 49.86° F.



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FIG. 16. Temperature belts of the world.

From Bartholomew's Atlas of Meteorology



Data from Bartholomew's Atlas of the World's Commerce

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FIG. 17. Natural vegetation belts of the world.

and consequently moderates extremes both of heat and cold. Moreover, the ocean currents and the prevailing winds carry the heat of the regions whence they come far away into other lands. Thus Great Britain, surrounded by the sea, has an oceanic climate, neither very hot nor very cold; and the west winds, warmed by passing over a current (or rather a slow drift) of water from the Tropics, spread the influence of the Atlantic over all western Europe.<sup>1</sup> On the other hand, eastern Russia has a continental climate, marked by great extremes of heat and cold.

Besides heat, light is necessary for the ripening of crops. Thus grain will not ripen in the Falkland Islands, which are not excessively cold, because the sky there is nearly always cloudy.

Finally, the nearer to the poles, the longer are the days in summer, and the many hours of continuous sunshine (twenty or more in the higher latitudes) force vegetation to an extraordinarily rapid growth. (Figs. 17 and 171.) To this fact is due the extension of the grain belt far toward the pole.

**46. The Relation of the Wind to Commerce.** From the foregoing discussion it appears that the active agent in the distribution of moisture and heat is everywhere the wind. The wind system of the world is thus a factor of commanding importance in all industries that depend, directly or indirectly, on climate.

Persistent winds blowing over the ocean moreover cause a drift of surface water in the same direction, which in some places develops into strong currents. Both winds and currents, in addition to their climatic effects, materially influence ocean navigation, even in these days of steam.

Sailing vessels, of course, depend absolutely on the winds and will always follow a longer course with favoring winds rather than a shorter course with adverse winds. Thus ships sailing from England to Australia commonly go out by way of the Cape of Good Hope, but return by way of Cape Horn, in

<sup>1</sup>Shaler, *Nature and Man*, p 143; Salisbury, *Physiography*, p. 700.

order to take advantage of the strong west wind below latitude  $40^{\circ}$  S. The trade winds are perhaps even more available for navigation than the west winds, because less variable.

**47. The Cause of the Wind.** The cause of the wind is the unequal weight of the air in different parts of the world.

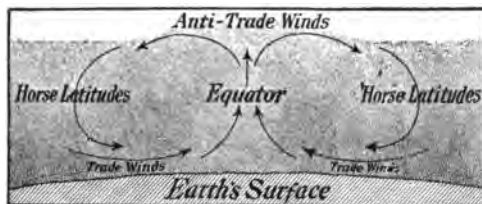


FIG. 18. *The cause of the trade winds.*

(Fig. 18.) The force of gravity does the rest, promptly setting the heavier air in motion toward the areas of lighter air. These are known as "areas of low pressure."

The principal cause of this inequality in the weight of the air is the greater heat of the sun near the equator, which expands the air in the equatorial belt and thus makes it lighter. Another cause is the rotation of the earth, which tends to throw the air toward the equator, and thus by compression to make it heavier in that region. The joint effect of these two opposing forces is a belt of low pressure near the equator, and a belt or "ridge" of high atmospheric pressure at about  $30^{\circ}$ — $35^{\circ}$  each side of the equator. From this belt of permanent high pressure in each hemisphere, known as the Horse Latitudes, the air moves toward the equator and also in opposite direction toward the poles, just as a spring on a water parting sends its waters down both slopes. The winds blowing toward the equator are the two trade winds, the winds blowing toward the poles are the prevailing westerlies of the Temperate zones—all being turned from a direct north and south course by the rotation of the earth.<sup>1</sup> (Fig. 19.)

**48. Prevailing Winds and Climatic Belts.** Although the unequal heating of land and sea and the effect of ocean currents and of mountains, cause great climatic differences, even in the same latitude, it is still possible to define belts of

<sup>1</sup>Salisbury, *Physiography*, chs. 16, 17.

similar winds and climate roughly parallel to the equator. The limits of all the wind and climatic belts shift north and south about  $5^{\circ}$  to  $10^{\circ}$  of latitude with the sun. (Fig. 20.)

Going from the equator toward the pole, we find in each hemisphere six climatic belts or zones: the Equatorial, Subequatorial, Tropical, Subtropical, Temperate, and Frigid.

**49. The Equatorial Zone.** Near the equator, within the permanent belt of low atmospheric pressure, the warm air is always rising, much as it does over a heated stove, but more slowly. (Fig. 18.)

As a result there is very little surface wind, and the rising air, becoming chilled, drops part of its moisture in heavy rains. As the sun is vertical twice a year, once in the spring and again in the autumn, and each time strengthens this up-draft of heated air, there are two rainy seasons—or rather, two seasons more rainy than the rest—and two relatively dry seasons.

This is the case, for example, at Panama. This belt of calms and rains, extending  $5^{\circ}$  to  $10^{\circ}$  each side of the equator, is known to sailors as the *doldrums*.

Owing to the heavy rainfall most of the belt is densely forested, and produces for export chiefly jungle products, such as rubber, mahogany, dye woods, and ivory. The one important cultivated crop is cocoa. The soil is usually fertile, but the combination of constant heat and humidity is debilitating;

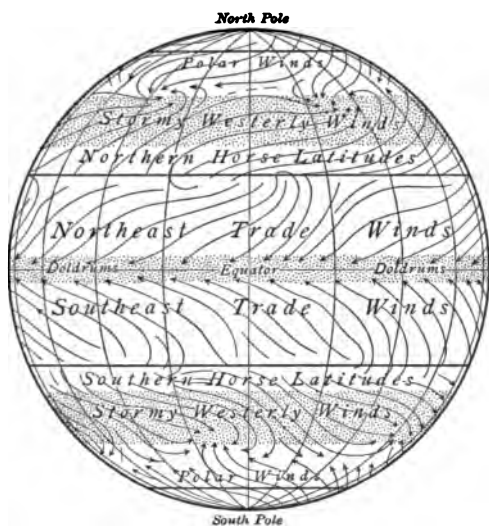


FIG. 19. *The prevailing surface winds of the world.*

food sufficient to sustain life may be had for the picking, and clothes are not necessary to existence. There is consequently little incentive to labor, and the natives have as a rule remained naked savages. Such conditions are well illustrated in the Amazon and Congo valleys.

The mountains and elevated plateaus in this belt have of course quite a different type of climate and population, and yield different products, such as coffee, tea, and even wheat.

**50. The Subequatorial Zones.** Bordering the Equatorial zone in each hemisphere is a transition belt extending from

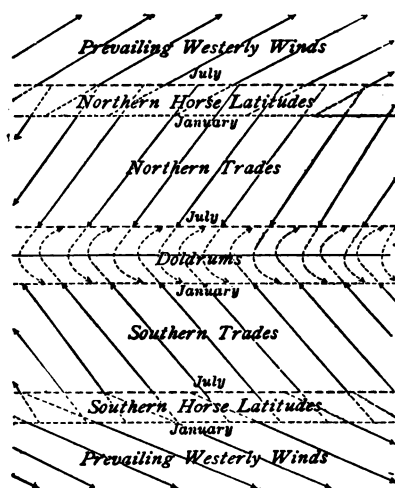


FIG. 20. *The winds and climatic belts of the world.*

$10^{\circ}$  to perhaps  $20^{\circ}$  from the equator, where the two rainy seasons coming close together in summer merge into one, while in winter the drying trade wind blows. This is the Subequatorial or Savanna zone, abounding in grass lands, but treeless except where there are slopes steep enough to condense moisture from the trade wind. It is consequently the chief stock-raising zone within the Tropics. Examples are the llanos of Venezuela, the

campos of Brazil, the grasslands of Rhodesia, and of the Sudân in Africa. These grasslands bordering the equatorial forests do not cease abruptly but (in Africa, for example) pass gradually into deserts about latitude  $18^{\circ}$  to  $20^{\circ}$ .

**51. The Tropical Zones.** The Tropical or trade-wind belt extends from the outer edge of the doldrums to perhaps  $30^{\circ}$  from the equator.

The trade winds, formed by the heavier air pressing toward the equator, blow from the northeast in the Northern,

from the southeast in the Southern Hemisphere; and since they move toward a warmer region, they tend to create deserts in level regions such as the Sahara, Arabia, and central Australia. On the other hand when chilled by rising over elevated coasts or mountains, they yield rain in torrents, as on the east coast of Central America.

The level and therefore arid portions of the trade-wind belts play little part in commerce, being sparsely occupied by nomad shepherd tribes, though the desert oases do contribute dates for export. The humid portions, on the other hand, produce the bulk of the commercial staples peculiar to the Tropics, especially cane sugar and coffee.

In many parts of the world, the unequal heating of sea and land causes the air to move toward the land in summer and toward the sea in winter. These monsoon winds find their greatest development in southern and eastern Asia, where, owing to the intense heat in the interior of the continent during the summer, the northeast trade wind is diverted from its usual course, or even entirely overpowered, and the heavier air over the oceans rushes from all directions toward the interior of Asia. To this summer monsoon wind are due the abundant rainfall, the productivity, and the dense population of India, the Philippines, and southern China, which lie in the latitude of the Sahara.

This monsoon region produces most of the rice, tea, silk, jute, Manila hemp, and not a little of the cotton of the world.

**52. The Subtropical Zones.** Along the poleward edge of either trade-wind belt in the Horse Latitudes the currents of air which ascend at the equator again reach the surface of the earth, producing another belt of calms, or light and variable winds. This is the Subtropical zone. Its location is in general about latitude  $30^{\circ}$  to  $35^{\circ}$ , though in Europe it extends north in summer to latitude  $40^{\circ}$ , or even  $45^{\circ}$  in southern France.

These zones receive some rain in winter from the westerly wind, which then reaches farthest toward the equator, but



in summer come under the influence of the drying trade wind, which then begins farthest from the equator. Moreover the



FIG. 21. *Grove of date palms, Biskra, Algeria.*

descending air currents, growing warmer as they descend, tend to produce drought. The Subtropical zones are therefore in the main semi-arid, especially in summer when irrigation is often necessary, and they contain patches of true desert. Southern California, Arizona, and the Mediterranean region are familiar examples.

(Fig. 21.) This type of climate is most clearly marked on

the western side of the continents, while toward the east it is interrupted by summer rains of monsoon or cyclonic origin, notably in Asia and North America.

Commercially, the Subtropical zone is important chiefly through its production of southern fruits and nuts—especially grapes, figs, olives, almonds, oranges, and lemons—for most of which it is no doubt the original home. In the regions of summer rains, however, especially in the United States, the staple crops are cotton and tobacco.

**53. The Temperate Zones.** The air current moving from the Horse Latitudes toward the pole blows from the southwest in the Northern, from the northwest in the Southern Hemisphere. This is the "Brave West Wind" of sailors, which is

strongest in the "Roaring Forties" of the Southern Hemisphere, where there is little land to obstruct its course. It is usually rain-bearing, except when descending from higher to lower levels on mountain sides, or when traversing plains as warm as the air. The rainfall in these zones is naturally heaviest on the western coasts and on the western slopes of mountains exposed to the west winds. (Fig. 7.)

The distribution of moisture is also profoundly affected by the great whirling storms, a thousand miles or more in diameter (cyclones, but not tornadoes) which, in the Temperate zones, surround temporary areas of low pressure as they move from west to east around the world. The warm moist air from the oceans, blowing toward these areas of low pressure, penetrates thousands of miles into the interior of the continents. Largely through the influence of these cyclonic storms the Temperate zones are well watered, except where lofty mountains intervene. (Fig. 15.) Examples are the greater part of the United States, Canada, northern Europe, and eastern Siberia.

Measured by temperature, the limits of the Temperate zones are very irregular, as they extend from latitude  $35^{\circ}$  to latitude  $50^{\circ}$  on the east coasts and to  $60^{\circ}$  (in places even  $70^{\circ}$ ) on the west coasts of the continents, where the west winds from the oceans moderate the winters. Perhaps the most satisfactory poleward limit is the line of  $50^{\circ}$  F. for the warmest month, that being the heat necessary to maintain forests and ripen hardy crops. (Fig. 16.)

Commercially, the Temperate zones are most important for the production of breadstuffs and live stock. They are also the seat of the leading mining, manufacturing, and commercial nations.

**54. The Frigid Zones.** In the Frigid zones where the soil is always frozen, except a few inches on top, and where darkness prevails throughout a considerable part of the year, the sea rather than the soil is the source of food and the most severe effort produces barely enough to sustain life, leaving no surplus for the higher uses of man. These regions therefore

contribute almost nothing to commerce, and their inhabitants have never of their own efforts risen above savagery.

**55. The Relation of Climate to Man.** The climate largely determines men's occupations, food, and dress. It also in a measure stimulates or checks their emotions, directs their thoughts, and subtly moulds their whole constitution and temperament. Tropical peoples are more impetuous, but less tenacious of purpose and far less energetic in labor, than those of colder zones. For this reason no ruling race has ever had its seat within the Tropics, at least in the moist regions, nor has any civilized nation ever arisen there, except such as dwelt at considerable elevations above sea level. There is, however, a sharp distinction between the natives of humid regions in the Tropics and the desert dwellers, who have ever been more energetic and independent, as witness the Arabs.

In the Temperate zones, on the other hand, the changes of the seasons are favorable to activity and energy; and the gifts of nature, being neither altogether lacking nor yet superabundant, at once encourage and compel man to supplement nature through his own efforts. A temperate climate is thus the most favorable for the development of man. Civilization, indeed, may be defined as a by-product (or incidental result) of the effort necessary to sustain life.

Moreover, within the North Temperate zone, the seat of power has shifted far toward the north since the dawn of history. From Egypt and Babylon, located just outside the Tropics, the scepter of dominion passed successively to Persia, Greece, and Rome; when Rome fell, her heritage went to the peoples beyond the Alps. To-day there is no great nation whose capital is much south of  $40^{\circ}$ ; London and Berlin are north of  $50^{\circ}$ ; and St. Petersburg is on the 60th parallel.

The Temperate zones originate three-fourths of the world's commerce; and the leadership of the world, in industry, commerce, and politics, rests with peoples reared under an inclement sky and schooled to severe labor for their daily bread.

## V—HOW COMMERCE DEPENDS ON MAN

*"Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet."*  
—Kipling.

**56. The Relation of Man to Commerce.** The basis of commerce is unlikeness of products in different regions, which must consequently exchange their products in order to satisfy their wants. This condition constitutes geographic division of labor, which it is the business of commercial geography to study and explain.

Unlikeness of products may be due to difference in natural resources or to difference in the wants and the productive efficiency of different peoples. The wants of men are the motive power behind all industry and commerce. For this reason, to civilize a savage, the first and most indispensable step is to give him wants. The native of the Tropics, and the savage everywhere, having few wants, cannot be depended on for regular labor. But let the savage once learn to crave new kinds of food or clothes or anything else which he can only secure by labor and he becomes forthwith a laborer. The efficiency of men as producers consequently varies greatly; and this variation is reflected in the existing economic conditions throughout the world. Germany and Portugal, for example, differ not less in the character of their inhabitants than they do in natural resources.

Such difference in wants and productive efficiency may result from either the inherited and more or less involuntary characteristics of various peoples, associated with difference in race, religion, custom, language, and nationality; or it may result from their voluntary and purposeful activities, such as the services of government, the system of taxation, commercial policies, and the regulation of weights and measures, money, banks, and education.

**57. The Influence of Race.** Since the dawn of history some 6,000 years ago, the white, yellow, and black races have been fixed types; and the white race has always been most largely represented in commerce. It would therefore be a waste of time to discuss the business condition or prospects of such countries as Haiti or China without regard to the well ascertained traits of their inhabitants. (Fig. 200.)

The chief branches of the white race have in like manner become more or less distinct. A Hebrew is usually unmistakable, while certain common qualities distinguish the Latin, Teutonic, and Slavic nations from one another. These common qualities, however they originated, control commerce quite as directly as does physical environment. Racial difference assuredly has much to do with the startling contrast, in commerce as in other respects, between Spanish-speaking South America and English-speaking North America.

**58. The Influence of Religion.** The direct influence of religion upon industry and commerce is far from insignificant. For example, the Jew may not eat pork, nor the Brahman beef. The Catholic is limited to fish on certain fast days; and the Mohammedan is forbidden to use alcoholic liquors. These and other religious rules, such as the numerous holidays required by some religions, affect in important respects the industry and commerce of extensive regions.

The indirect influence of religion, while subtle and difficult to state, is still more far reaching. Thus the stagnation of China for the last thousand years is certainly due in part to Confucianism, the state religion, which exalts the wise men of old so greatly that every innovation appears a mortal sin. "Whatever has not been, must not be," is the Confucian creed. Again, the decay of the Mohammedan peoples cannot be explained without reference to their fatalism. "Nothing happens but by the will of Allah; why then disturb one's self?" So the Turk reasons; and logically enough he will hardly bestir himself to throw on water if his house catches fire. Still less, of course, will he bestir himself to labor. If riches come

to him, it is well; if not, it is also well. However restful such a creed may appear in this strenuous age and country, it is clearly not favorable to industry or commerce.

**59. The Influence of Custom and Morality.** Peoples long isolated from others are not infrequently hostile to foreigners and to everything of foreign origin. In the interior of China, for example, travelers are sometimes driven to adopt the native garb, even to the "pig tails" (long braids of hair) in order to escape insult and possible injury. The same hostility limits the sales of foreign goods, and leads at times to organized boycotts against them. In like manner, the peons (laborers) in Mexico and Central America refuse to use, and they sometimes destroy, modern tools and farm machinery, preferring their wooden hoes and plows. Such a disposition opposes great obstacles to commercial development.

Again, since trade was at first a substitute for war (§1), a man went down into the market place bent on getting the better of the foreigner, whom he continued to regard as his enemy<sup>1</sup>. Substantially this conception of trade has survived to the present day in most parts of Asia and Africa, where time is not money, where the aim is to make a large profit on a few sales, and cheating seems to be entirely according to the rules of the game. The same method is also pursued in many cases by the huckster and peddler (to say nothing of the horse trader) the world over.

On the other hand, the method of small profits but large sales is increasingly characteristic of western civilization; and when carried to its logical conclusion, it means full weight and measure, one price for all, and the sale of goods strictly on their merits. Moreover, since business has come to be transacted so largely on credit, it rests almost entirely on mutual confidence between man and man. Without confidence, indeed, modern business would be impossible. For this reason, business morality must be reckoned at least as essential to success in commerce as intelligence, or skill of hand, or ample resources.

<sup>1</sup>The Latin word *hostis* means both "foreigner" and "enemy."

**60. The Influence of Language.** Difference of language is a hindrance to commercial as to social intercourse, imposing as it does the necessity of maintaining a class of interpreters able to use several languages. (Fig. 229.) In this respect, western Europe is less favorably circumstanced for commerce to-day than in the Middle Ages, when Latin was the common language of business, as it was of literature and government.

In the hope of overcoming this barrier of language, artificial languages such as *Esperanto* have been invented; but a true world language will doubtless come, if it comes at all, by the spread and modification of some existing language. Many believe that English would stand the best chance of universal acceptance if only its spelling could be completely reformed.

The leading languages of commerce, measured by extent of territory, include: English in the widely scattered British Empire and the United States; Spanish, throughout most of America south of the Rio Grande; Russian, prevalent over nearly half of Europe and of Asia; Chinese, spoken by a fourth of the human race in eastern Asia; and Arabic, current in the native marts from western Africa to central Asia.

In addition, there are two curious mongrel dialects of some commercial importance: *Lingua Franca*, a mixture of French, Italian, and Arabic, spoken in the eastern Mediterranean ports; and *Pidgin English* (Business English) a mixture of English and Chinese, commonly used in the ports of the western Pacific.

**61. The Influence of Nationality.** The modern conception of nationality is, in brief, that a man belongs to the nation for which, in case of necessity, he must bear arms. Nevertheless, behind this tie of military allegiance there are commonly other and stronger bonds of union, such as community of language, interests, and ideals. In default of such bonds, the mere obligation of military service tends to lose its force. Austria-Hungary, with its warring races and languages, is a case in point.

Moreover, the type of man which predominates in a nation determines its attitude toward industry and trade.

What this type shall be depends not alone on the soil, climate, and natural resources of the country, but also on its history. Thus commerce, held in the highest honor by Phoenicians, was by the Romans esteemed the work of slaves. In like manner, the five-hundred years' war of the Spaniards against the Moors, followed by the Spanish discovery and conquest of the New World, made the object of their desire wealth obtained by conquest rather than by industry or commerce.

**62. The Services of Government.** Unless the government be able and willing to protect life and property, and especially unless the courts be honest and courageous, a fatal blight falls upon the land. Men will not work, still less will they save, without reasonable prospect of enjoying the fruit of their labors. This explains in large part the wretched poverty of tropical South America, where the governments sometimes vie with the revolutionists in robbing the people, and the courts represent merely the will of the dictator of the hour.

In addition to protection, the government sometimes renders direct aid to commerce: for example, in the care of rivers and harbors; the building of lighthouses, life-saving stations, roads, bridges, wharves, docks, and canals; the preservation of fish and forests; the reclamation of waste lands by irrigation and drainage; the publication of geological maps, sailing charts, consular reports, weather and agricultural bulletins; the establishment of colonies; and the protection of commerce across the sea. These governmental aids to industry and commerce have assumed great importance in recent years, even in the United States, as shown by the forest reserves, and the comprehensive plans for irrigation, drainage, and the conservation of natural resources.

Finally, there is an increasing tendency for governments to go into business on their own account, sometimes as a source of revenue, more often to insure the people better and cheaper service. In this country the government operates the postal system, while many cities have their own water and lighting plants. In Europe this tendency has gone much further.



Most of the states there own the telegraph lines and the railways; some of them have even established government monopolies in salt, tobacco, opium, and alcoholic liquors.

**63. The System of Taxation.** To support the government in the task of maintaining order and giving aid to commerce, taxation is indispensable. This touches industry and trade at a thousand points. A tax system such as Spain once tried to impose on the Netherlands (a tax on every sale of every article) would soon ruin the most flourishing country; while on the other hand a country may prosper under a heavy burden of taxation, provided it be laid on all citizens in proportion to their several tax-paying abilities.

**64. The Effect of Commercial Policies.** In modern times taxes on imports have been used by nearly all nations as a weapon of commercial warfare to build up certain of their own industries at the expense of competing nations.

Some countries even grant direct bounties from the public treasury to encourage certain industries, as Canada has done for the manufacture of pig iron; and many pay subsidies to their merchant shipping either openly, or in the form of excessive payments for the carriage of the mails.

The wisdom of this whole protective system is indeed denied by many, who affirm that in the long run free trade would be more advantageous for all nations. Nevertheless protection still remains the general policy of most countries, and has the support of a considerable party even in England, the principal free trade country of Europe. "Customs lines are an expression of the struggle for existence as it stands at the beginning of the twentieth century."

**65. Weights, Measures, and Grading.** If business is to be transacted with certainty and dispatch, it is essential that there be common units of weight and measure. With the growth of international trade, it has become increasingly desirable that these units be common to all the nations. For this reason the metric system, invented in France, has been accepted by most civilized nations except those speaking

English. This system, being based on ten and multiples thereof, facilitates reckoning. On the other hand, English and American firms doing an export business are at a disadvantage because pounds and feet are entirely unfamiliar to their foreign customers. (Table 2.)

Of perhaps equal importance is the system of government inspection and grading of staple commodities such as wheat. It at once insures the purchaser against fraud, and it makes possible the storage (Fig. 22) and shipment of the commodity in car-load or ship-load lots. The system of grading and



FIG. 22. *The modern type of elevator in use at Minneapolis. The grain is stored in separate steel or concrete tanks as a protection against fire.*

handling in bulk has contributed hardly less than improvements in railways and steamships to cheapen transportation and to extend commerce.

Another step in the same direction was signaled by the United States Pure Food Act, extending the system of government inspection and certification to foods and drugs, so as to protect the consumer against adulteration. The tendency of such legislation is to inspire greater confidence in American products abroad and thereby to create a better market for them.

**66. Time Belts.** Since time is marked by the sun, a place farther east has naturally a different time from one farther west. To avoid the confusion caused by frequent changes of time, the railroads some years ago agreed to divide North America into five time belts, each having a time exactly an hour earlier than the belt next toward the west. Railroad or standard time has now come into general use by the public. A similar plan has also been adopted in Europe. (Fig. 23.)

As dawn travels in an unbroken course from east to west around the world, it is necessary, in order to avoid confusion



FIG. 23. *Standard time belts in the United States.*

as to dates, to fix an International Date Line where each day shall begin. This line follows in the main the 180th meridian west of Greenwich, England. When it is Sunday noon at Greenwich, Monday is just beginning at the International Date Line. (Fig. 14.)

**67. The Machinery of Exchange.** Long before any organized government existed, the inconveniences of barter caused people to use as a measure of value and a medium of exchange some commodity, such as cattle, silver, or gold, which nearly every one desired. Any commodity so used was money.

Money was thus not created by government, but its regulation is now one of the most important functions of the government in all civilized countries. If the money fluctuates in value, as paper money did in the United States during the Civil War, no man can tell whether he will gain or lose by any transaction; consequently confidence is destroyed and commerce stagnates. At the present time, all important countries except China base their money on gold; that is to say, silver and paper money are made redeemable in gold.

Equally essential to prosperity is a sound banking system. If banks are lacking, or if they do not command general confidence, the people will hide their money, which is thus withdrawn from circulation. The result is that men who need to borrow money must pay an exorbitant rate of interest, and commerce again stagnates. Moreover, certain banks (National Banks in the United States) issue bank notes which circulate as money; while checks and drafts also, in effect, take the place of money in the payment of debts.

Finally, banks settle accounts against one another through institutions known as clearing houses, where credits offset debits and only the differences or balances are paid in money. Essentially the same result is reached in the settlement of international trade balances by the use of foreign exchange or orders-to-pay, drawn by merchants in one country against their debtors in other countries. In the settlement of international trade balances, London is virtually the clearing house for the world.

**68. The Bearing of Education on Commerce.** Prior to the industrial revolution inaugurated by steam and continued by electricity, most industries were carried on by hand; and the knowledge of the practical arts was handed down from generation to generation by the apprentice system. In the last century, however, since the rise of science and the victorious advance of power machinery into nearly all the fields formerly occupied by hand labor, the apprentice system has all but disappeared in the principal industrial countries.

In like manner, markets were local in the old days, when nearly all industries were neighborhood industries. In such circumstances, the ability to read and write and figure sufficed for the transaction of business; but the division of labor and the development of transportation have separated ever farther producers and consumers and thrust between them the whole immense machinery of modern commerce. Moreover, the expense of marketing goods is an integral part of the expense of producing them. Inefficiency in commerce thus tends just as effectually as inefficiency in production to increase the cost, limit the output, and lower the quality of goods.

It follows, therefore, that while the old method of training for industry and commerce has broken down, the necessity for wide information and trained judgment is greater to-day than ever before.

In view of these facts, all the leading nations have at last awakened to the necessity for a thorough technical education. Knowledge is power no less among nations than among men; and just as the untrained man cannot compete with the trained athlete, so the uneducated nation is helpless against the educated nation. In this age of machinery and specialization, therefore, that country which, having the necessary natural resources, educates most effectively for agriculture, manufactures, and commerce will inevitably become master of the world's markets. To such education, more than to any other single factor, is due the extraordinarily rapid rise of Germany as a commercial nation; since Germany, more than any other nation, has educated for industry and commerce as thoroughly as ever the Romans educated for war.

## VI—HOW COMMERCE DEPENDS ON ECONOMIC FORCES

**69. The Nature of Economic Development.** The Greeks fabled that Athena, the goddess of wisdom, sprang full-armed from the head of Zeus; and the Egyptians traced every practical art to some special deity. But we know that skill of hand and knowledge of natural laws have been slowly acquired through the ages, each generation adding a little to the precious heritage, until civilized man has now chained many of the forces of nature to his chariot.

However complex this process of economic development may be in its details, it is singularly simple in its main features.

The savage, like the beast of the forest, is dependent for his food upon what nature spontaneously provides. Civilization, in the economic sense, is merely an organized attempt to increase and supplement the free gifts of nature, using for this purpose the materials and forces available in nature. If food and clothes and everything else needed by men were supplied by nature as abundantly as the air we breathe—if, in short, as Kingsley fabled, plum puddings grew on trees and geese flew about already roasted—there would be no need for labor, and there would consequently be no such thing as civilization.

In order to supplement the gifts of nature most effectively, civilized man has hit upon the division of labor. It is an old proverb that "a jack of all trades is master of none." On the other hand, a man who confines himself to one line of work naturally becomes more skillful in it. Moreover, some parts of the world are especially fitted, by climate or natural resources, for certain industries. Finally, by means of commerce the surplus products of all classes of workers and all parts of the world are exchanged, thus giving to each the benefit of the skill and natural resources of all.

The essence of economic development is thus: (1) increasing division of labor, between classes and between countries; and (2) increasing development of commerce, both internal and foreign.

**70. Geographic Division of Labor.** So far as transportation facilities permit, each industry tends to become localized: (1) where soil and climate are the most suitable; (2) where raw materials and coal, or water power, are the most abundant; (3) where the largest markets are easiest of access; (4) where there is already at hand a supply of labor skilled in that particular industry.

It rarely happens that one district combines all of these favoring conditions. Not infrequently, indeed, an industry once firmly rooted will hold its own with surprising tenacity long after all the conditions which at first favored its development in that locality have passed away; for there remain capital already invested in that industry which cannot be readily turned to other uses, business experience, business prestige, and a supply of skilled labor. This fact serves to explain many of the seeming anomalies of economic geography, such as the persistence of metal industries in New England after iron ore had practically ceased being smelted in that section.

**71. The Principle of Maximum Returns.** The four factors controlling the localization of industries (§70), reduce, in practice, to one—the principle of maximum returns.

Resources are due to nature, but products are due to man: or rather they are due to individual men, each seeking to make for himself the best possible livelihood. Nature thus controls industry only in so far as it enters into the economic calculations of individuals, by rendering one industry more profitable than another in any given locality. Moreover it is not enough that one industry yield more per acre than another; it must yield more per man. If a farmer can, with the same labor, grow ten acres of sugar beets at a profit of \$50.00 per acre, or one hundred acres of corn at a profit

of \$10.00 an acre, he will assuredly plant his land to corn, provided he has land enough. The principle of maximum returns to the proprietor of the business is consequently decisive as to what industries shall be developed.

It is indeed customary and convenient to speak of what the "United States" produces, or exports, or imports. In point of fact, however, industry and commerce are carried on, not by nations, but by individuals; and it is merely the sum total of private production and trade which we call the national production and trade.

This pursuit of personal interest sometimes degenerates into the desire to get something for nothing, as in "bargain hunting," or into the craze to get rich quickly. But it happens that, to a considerable extent, the interests of the individual and of society coincide. In order to secure the maximum profit a man must (except in case of monopolies) so direct his labor as to produce the most goods at the least cost; and this, viewed from the standpoint of society, amounts to supplementing most effectively the free gifts of nature.

**72. Maximum Returns from Land.** Where land is practically free (as it was on the American frontier a generation ago), the farmer aims to spread his labor over as much land as possible, so long as he thereby increases his crops in the aggregate. This system of extensive farming, still exemplified by wheat raising in the Northwest, yields little to the acre, but much to the man and the team. So long as population is scanty and land is cheap, this is consequently the most profitable system of farming.

As population grows denser and the land acquires value, however, more intensive farming (that is, the use of more labor and capital on a given amount of land) becomes necessary to secure the maximum profit. After this has been carried to a certain point, it involves the introduction of other crops, such as sugar beets, fruit, tobacco, or garden truck, that call for more labor but yield larger returns per acre than wheat or other staple crops.



This economic principle of maximum returns to the proprietor of the business not infrequently clashes with and overrides purely geographical considerations. It is evident, for example, that the rising value of land may force wheat into a subordinate place in the crop system of the very districts best adapted to it by nature—as occurred in the Genesee Valley—or may exclude it altogether from such districts, if the land can be used more profitably in other ways.

The same principle applies to city property. Cheap land usually has cheap buildings upon it; while the most valuable sites in the business district are occupied by the finest office buildings, for only such buildings can pay a reasonable return on the price of the land.

**73. Maximum Returns from Capital.** Robinson Crusoe, though cast upon a desert island, had at his disposal the resources of civilization, represented by the spoils from the wrecked ship. Without such resources, he must have made a sorry failure in his attempt to wrest a living from nature.

As this illustration shows, capital in the form of tools and other instruments of production is indispensable to effective labor. The problem for the farmer, as for the factory manager, is so to combine capital and labor, together with the proper amount of land, as to secure the maximum returns.

Many operations, such as reaping grain or making shoes, may be performed either by hand labor or by machinery. In such cases, the cheaper method will naturally be adopted. As a general thing, hand labor is cheap in old and densely-peopled countries, but dear in new countries; for which reason new countries, such as the United States, make extensive use of machinery.

Extensive use of machinery, in turn, generally favors large-scale production. A large farm, like a large factory, can more profitably use expensive machinery. Large-scale production in turn, tends to localize the industries where machinery can best be used. Thus the bonanza wheat farms of the Northwest and of the Pacific slope have been made possible

by the perfection of planting and harvesting machinery.

**74. Maximum Returns from Labor.** The cost of labor is measured not so much by the wages paid as by the efficiency of the laborer. As a matter of fact, highly paid labor is usually the cheapest. Thus skilled laborers in the United States as a rule turn out more goods for every dollar of wages they receive than do laborers in countries where they get only ten to twenty cents a day.

There are, however, some industries requiring much hand-labor, which are poverty-industries, carried on only where there is a large population, a low standard of living, and consequently a low rate of wages. Examples are the production of raw silk, tea, flax fiber, and, in the United States, of ready-made clothing. (§494, §498.)

Moreover, the maximum returns both for the individual and for society are attained when the ablest manager is in control of the most efficient capital goods and the most fertile or best located land. For this reason an able farmer is seldom found on poor land, or using worn-out machinery; while on the other hand a tumble-down farm and a tumble-down farmer usually go together.

Further, labor like machinery must be steadily employed if it is to yield the maximum returns. This principle is of special importance in agriculture, since a farmer who grows only one crop, such as wheat, may be idle the larger part of the year. This is a clear economic waste. As a general thing, a farmer will therefore secure the maximum returns if he plants several crops which demand his attention at different times of the year. For this reason, crops are often grown far beyond their natural geographical limits, like oats in the South, if they happen not to require attention at the same season as the principal crop of the section.

**75. Complementary Industries.** On the basis of the season when they call for labor, the principal field crops of the United States have been divided<sup>1</sup> into three non-competing groups:

<sup>1</sup>Taylor, *Agricultural Economics*.

the winter grains, sown in the fall; the spring small grains; and the crops requiring cultivation early in the growing season (inter-tilled crops) such as cotton, tobacco, corn, sugar beets and other root crops. To these may be added as non-competing industries the raising of poultry and live stock for the market, since these require attention mostly in the winter; while dairy cattle, if more in number than the women and children can care for, usually take the attention of the men away from the crops at all seasons. For this reason, stock raising for the market is often a side industry; while dairying tends, wherever established (unless in the form of winter dairying) to supersede the production of crops for the market.

Again, the principle of maximum returns for labor often leads to the establishment of complementary manufacturing industries. Examples are the silk and other textile mills (employing chiefly women) near iron and steel mills (employing only strong men) in eastern Pennsylvania, in the Rhine district of Germany, and elsewhere. Such textile mills are due to the presence of unemployed labor rather than to geographical conditions.

Further there is a most intimate relation between the several industries, so that the development or decline of one usually affects a number of others. Thus the growth of intensive or scientific farming in Europe created a demand for fertilizers, which has given rise to an immense nitrate trade with Chile and this trade, giving low rates on return cargoes, has in turn favored European exports to South America.

**76. The Influence of Substitution.** There are few articles in use for which some substitute, more or less imperfect of course, cannot be found. For example, wheat bread is more palatable than rye bread; but whenever wheat is scarce and expensive, rye is largely substituted for it, thus advancing somewhat the price of rye and checking the violent rise in the price of wheat which would otherwise occur.

Again, whenever a new and cheaper article is permanently substituted for one previously in use, it gives rise to a new

industry, which more or less supplants an old industry. In most cases this involves changes in the geographic division of labor, and consequently in the direction of commerce. Thus petroleum has largely taken the place, for lighting and lubricating purposes, of whale oil. This substitution has almost driven whaling fleets from the ocean. So also cotton-seed oil, a by-product of cotton ginning, competes sharply with cocoanut and olive oil; butterine and oleomargarine, made from animal fats or cotton-seed oil, compete with butter; and beet sugar competes with cane sugar.

Perhaps the most far-reaching substitution on record was that of cotton for other textile materials, following the invention of the cotton gin, which multiplied and cheapened many fold the supply of raw cotton. As a result, the South specialized in cotton culture, depending on the North and on Europe for manufactures; and there grew up the immense modern trade in cotton and cotton products.

In like manner the phosphate beds in the South have stimulated the demand for sulphuric acid, which is employed in preparing phosphatic fertilizers.

Finally the supply of some articles has been enlarged, with revolutionary effect on commerce, through the use of by-products previously thrown away. In some cases new commodities of great importance have been produced in this way. Thus gas and coal-tar are obtained from coal during the slow combustion necessary to produce coke; and from coal-tar in turn other valuable products are secured, including aniline dyes which have largely superseded vegetable and animal dyes.

**77. The Law of Decreasing Returns.** In every sort of production, the essential factors are land, labor, and capital. Moreover, they must be combined in the right proportion if they are to yield the maximum profit; in other words, a man would assuredly need more men and more teams to farm a section of land than a half section. If this right proportion is once reached and an attempt is then made to enlarge the business without increasing all three factors, the right proportion is

again destroyed and the returns cannot possibly increase proportionately. For example, if the farmer in question, after getting the right number of men and teams for his section should continue to hire more men without providing more teams or machinery, he would largely increase his expenses without getting much larger crops.

It is in connection with land that this law of decreasing (or diminishing) returns is most important; for the land surface of the earth is limited by nature and cannot be materially increased by man. It is, moreover, in agriculture that the land plays the largest role as a factor in production. Agriculture is consequently the industry most seriously affected by the law of decreasing returns.

As applied to land used in agriculture, this law amounts merely to the statement of a fact familiar to every farmer boy—that crops do not continue to increase in proportion to the labor employed upon the land. In other words, two men and two teams cannot raise twice as much wheat or cotton on a forty-acre farm as one man and one team. There is no getting away from this fundamental fact, even though improved machinery or methods should double or quadruple the yield of the land. It would still be true that two men could not raise twice as much wheat or cotton on a forty-acre farm as one man, using the same improved methods and machinery.

In these circumstances it is inevitable that as population grows denser there is a smaller surplus of agricultural products, especially of foodstuffs, for export, until finally the land no longer suffices to feed the people. Such has been the experience of England and Germany; and already New England, like Old England, contains three times as many people as it can feed from its own soil.

No nation, therefore, is so near famine as the one which, with a dense population, devotes itself exclusively to agriculture. This fact receives terrible illustration in China and India where the people can barely live even in years of

abundant harvests, and whenever the lean years come, the natives die by millions of starvation unless fed by foreign charity. In such countries, indeed, famine is practically the normal condition.

**78. How the Law of Decreasing Returns is Offset.** For thousands of years, in the Old World, every generation faced this grim riddle: how to maintain an increasing population on a fixed area of land? For failure to answer it, the penalties imposed by Nature were famine and pestilence; and the only alternatives open to men were emigration or war. Until within a century, therefore, the law of decreasing returns in agriculture has constantly urged nations to war for the conquest of more land, since that seemed the only way of increasing their food supply.<sup>1</sup> Not the ambition of kings but the struggle for existence of nations was thus the impelling force behind most of the great wars of history.

With the introduction of power machinery and of steam, however, a new answer to the old riddle became possible; namely, the export of manufactured goods and the import of foodstuffs from new countries which are still sparsely populated. This is obviously the geographic division of labor on a scale never before dreamed of. England, where power machinery and steam traction were invented, showed the way in this solution of the problem; and all the densely populated countries possessed of coal or water power, together with the requisite skill and intelligence, have long since hastened to follow England's example. This was the true meaning of Chancellor von Caprivi's famous declaration that "Germany must export either men or goods."

**79. Economic Competition and War.** Commercial supremacy thus means everything in the twentieth century that military supremacy meant in the days of Alexander and of Cæsar. At bottom, however, the ever-growing competition

<sup>1</sup>See the author's *War and Economics* in the *Political Science Quarterly*, December, 1900; also reprinted in Carver's *Sociology and Social Progress*.

between manufacturing nations for foreign markets is a form of warfare in which the intelligent and industrious survive, while the others are crowded to the wall among those designated by Lord Salisbury as "the dying nations."

Already this struggle for markets has become not less keen than was of old the struggle for land. In fact, it has caused the foundation of new and the enlargement of old colonial empires. Moreover, to guard their colonies and trade routes the nations of Europe have built mighty navies and sown the



Courtesy of the Honorable Bartlett Tripp, former U. S. Commissioner to Samoa

FIG. 24. *Pago Pago Harbor, where a coaling station for the United States Navy is now located.*

seas with fortified cable and coaling stations (Fig. 24); and more than one war has been waged, like that between Russia and Japan, to secure or avert a monopoly of trade. When all is said and done the cannon remains the last argument, not of kings as the old inscription reads,<sup>1</sup> but of nations; and it is true to-day, as never before, that the path to national prosperity and power lies over the waves.

<sup>1</sup>Formerly engraved on cannons: *Ultima ratio regum.*

## VII—THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

*"Those inventions which abridge distance have done most for civilization."*  
—Macaulay.

**80. The Influence of Transportation.** A tethered horse cannot graze beyond the length of his tether; nor can commerce extend farther, at any given period, than the means of transportation allow.

Many of the older generation now living have heard their grandmothers tell how clothing was spun and woven at home. In those days nearly everything was produced on the premises where it was consumed; to-day, the four quarters of the earth are ransacked to furnish what we eat, wear, and use in our homes. This change is, in the main, the result of improved transportation, which promotes the geographic division of labor and consequently the development of commerce (§69, 70).

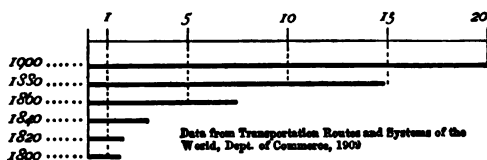


FIG. 25. *The development of world commerce in billions of dollars, during the nineteenth century.*

(Fig. 25.) Thus, New England now depends largely on the Dakotas for wheat, sending cotton goods and shoes in exchange. So also, in respect to meat, wool, cotton, and all other staple products; each is more and more confined to those regions best fitted for its production.

So intimate, indeed, is the relation of transportation to commerce that every improvement in transportation is felt immediately, like an electric shock, through every part of the industrial and commercial world.

**81. Communication by Messengers.** Among savages and at early stages of civilization there was greater need for the communication of intelligence, usually relating to military or



political affairs, than for the transportation of commodities. Such information was first conveyed by messenger. The runners employed by the Indians and by most ancient nations sometimes covered incredible distances. Phidippides, for example, ran from Athens to Sparta (nearly 150 miles by the road) in two days, before the battle of Marathon, to announce that the Persians had landed. The Peruvians, before the Spanish Conquest had regular relays of men stationed about a league apart, who were thus able to cover the ground at high speed, like runners in a modern relay race. The ancient Persians had similar relays of mounted messengers on all their main highways.

From the ancient use of heralds to convey messages to other nations has come the whole modern system of consuls, who look after business interests, and ambassadors, who have charge of political affairs, in foreign countries. Their importance has constantly grown with the increase of commerce. In barbarous states, like Turkey and China, consuls representing civilized nations even have authority to try cases in which their countrymen are involved.

**82. The Post.** With the advance of civilization written messages came to prevail. The Romans were probably the first to organize a regular postal service (*cursus publicus*) which, however, was intended solely for the use of the government. National posts date from about the sixteenth century. The rapid and reliable service of to-day is of course altogether dependent on steam transportation. (Fig. 52.)

The original idea was to make the post a source of revenue for the government by charging twenty-five cents or more for carrying a letter even a few miles. In 1840, however, the "Penny Post" was introduced in England. In 1845 the letter rate in the United States was reduced to five cents, and later to three cents (1851) and two cents (1883). Similar reductions were also made in other countries. These radical reforms vastly increased the volume of postal business, and consequently the commercial importance of the post.

The International Postal Union, which began operations in 1875, now includes all civilized and many barbarous states. The foreign letter rate is five cents, no matter how great the distance; though the United States applies the domestic rate of two cents not only to its outlying possessions, but also to Cuba, Panama; Mexico. Canada, Newfoundland, Great Britain, Ireland, and Germany.

In effect, the modern postal service has made all men throughout the world neighbors, and possible customers, of one another.

**83. The Use of Signals.** Signals, like messengers, were among the earliest means of communication. The ancient

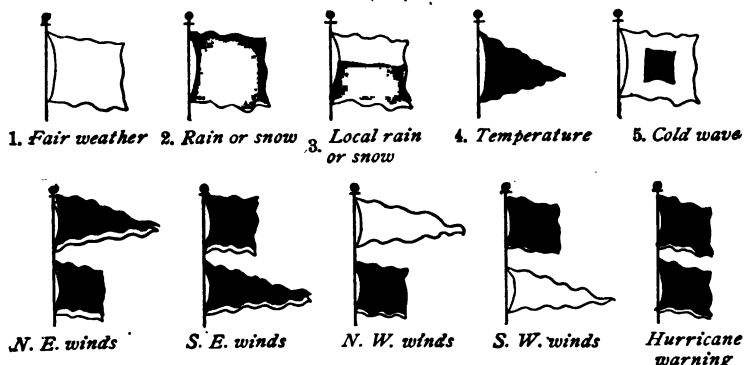


FIG. 26 Signals used by the United States Weather Bureau.

Gauls stationed men within sight of one another to wave or shout the news, which thus crossed the country in a day. Signal smokes were commonly used by the Indians, and signal fires made the coming of the Spanish Armada known throughout all England in a few hours.

Signals are still widely used. Fog horns and lighthouses warn vessels away from dangerous coasts or guide them into port. The weather forecasts are indicated by flags (Fig. 26) placed on towers and trains. The Army has a regular code of signals by mirrors that flash the sun's rays, and by flags, the latter system popularly called 'wig-wag.' Vessels at sea

communicate by flags or cannon. At night rockets are used or the searchlight is flashed against the clouds. Another signaling device used at sea is a submarine bell attached to the ship. The sound carries through the water for considerable distances and is caught by receivers on other vessels.

**84. The Telegraph.** The greatest triumph of the signal system came, however, through the use of electricity (1844). Wires and cables running everywhere over the land and under the sea have now literally annihilated distance, so far as communication is concerned; though it is still true that we pay a tribute to Nature (and perhaps still more to the telegraph and cable companies) in the form of heavy tolls for long-distance messages.

A still more marvelous thing is wireless telegraphy. By piercing dense fogs and warning vessels of one another's presence, it has immensely increased the safety of ocean navigation. Thanks to wireless telegraphy, passengers now receive messages in mid-ocean from their friends ashore, and read the news in a daily paper published on shipboard.

The telegraph has long since become an indispensable factor in commerce. It forms, indeed, the chief means by which the world-wide operations of modern industry and transportation are marshaled and controlled. In particular, it is essential to the safe and rapid operation of railways. It diminishes the stock which merchants need to carry, because orders can be speedily filled from the factory. It extends the market for staple commodities, such as wheat and cotton, till it includes the whole country or even the world. By so doing, it lessens the range and violence of price fluctuations; for a crop failure in one country may be offset by an abundant harvest in another, and the knowledge of this fact averts the danger of famine prices.

**85. The Telephone.** For local affairs, the telegraph has been largely superseded by the telephone, which first came into general notice at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia (1876). By means of this marvelous instrument, the

human voice is distinctly audible from New York to Chicago.

The telephone, moreover, competes, not only with the telegraph, but also with the post, the railroad, and the street railway. One of the most effective telephone advertisements reads: "Don't go, don't write, don't telegraph, telephone!" The telephone enables business to be transacted at almost any distance and in a fraction of the time formerly required. The retailer is thus relieved from the necessity of carrying a large stock, since the wholesaler is within reach at a minute's notice; and the customer, in turn, is no longer dependent on the small neighborhood store, but has at his command without loss of time the large retail or department stores.

In recent years the telephone has begun to penetrate the country, dispelling the loneliness which has hung about the farmer's home and bringing him in contact, not only with the city stores, but with the daily markets and events of the whole wide world. He is thus enabled to sell his crops and order his supplies without loss of time and whenever the prices are most advantageous.

**86. The Tests of Transportation.** As distinguished from communication, which has to do with ideas, transportation in the narrower sense is the conveyance of persons or commodities from place to place. The tests of its efficiency are: (1) cheapness, that is economy of force; (2) speed, that is economy of time. Efficiency means the conquest of natural barriers to commerce, such as seas, mountains, and deserts.

To economize force and time, the most direct route, other things being equal, is the best. At sea it is possible, in the main, to follow a direct route; but it is impossible on land, since that would involve the construction of a road from every place in the world to every other place. Consequently, the best that can be done is to provide direct roads between great cities, with secondary roads branching off from these.

**87. Methods of Transportation.** The development of transportation may be considered with reference to the propelling power, the way traversed, or the conveyance used.

The first power employed in transportation was muscular, derived either from man or beast. Later, natural forces such as winds, tides, and river currents came into use, mainly in connection with navigation. Finally, within the last 150 years, steam, and still later electricity, generated either by steam or water power, have become the great motive powers. Gasoline and compressed air are also of increasing importance. All these are natural forces, but artificially generated and controlled.

With reference to the way traversed, transportation is by land, by water, or by air; and land transportation may be divided into that carried on by road, by railroad, by pipe line, or by wire.

Finally, traffic by road is distinguished according to the conveyances used—porters, pack animals, sleds, or wheeled vehicles; and wheeled vehicles may be further distinguished as wagons, bicycles, automobiles, and railway cars.

**88. Human Portage.** It would seem, sad to relate, that the first "beast of burden" was woman. This was the case among savages—for example, the American Indians—partly because the men objected to labor, partly because they had to guard against sudden attacks by wild beasts or hostile tribes. This use of woman still survives in many parts of Europe, where it is no uncommon sight to see a peasant woman and a dog hitched to a market cart.

In some parts of Africa where domestic animals suffer from the dreaded tsetse fly, human porters are the principal means of land conveyance. In China and Japan, moreover, the porters, sedan-bearers, and wheelbarrow and jinrikisha men perform the most extraordinary labor all for a few cents a day, because overpopulation (relative to the means of producing wealth) has rendered human labor cheaper than that of beasts.

Nevertheless, there is usually no mode of transportation so expensive, in proportion to the weight moved, as human portage. (Fig. 27.)

**89. Pack Animals.** The domestication of animals suitable for labor was thus a red-letter day in the history of man, providing for the first time not only a reliable food supply, but also ready means of transportation and the power necessary for agriculture. It is hardly an accident that civilization first developed in the Old World, where animals capable of domestication abounded, and that the most advanced civilization in America before the Spanish Conquest, the Peruvian, was associated with the llama and alpaca.

In the mountains and in backward countries generally, pack animals are still the principal means of transportation,



Courtesy of the Honorable O. P. Austin

FIG. 27. *Transportation by man power. The huge load is drawn by one man.*

especially the sure-footed ass, the mule, and, in the Andes, the llama. But in arid regions, such as central Australia (Fig. 28) and the district around Goldfield, Nev., the motor car and the traction engine with its train of wide-tired wagons have come into use. In fact, they have even invaded the desert regions of the Old World and now threaten to displace the picturesque camel caravans, which for untold ages have moved on silent feet through the desert solitudes.

**90. Wheeled Transportation.** The cart was quite as epoch-making in its day as the locomotive. The first carts,



FIG. 28. *The modern "ship of the desert"—Traction engine and wagons in Australia.*

to be sure, were crude enough. They were entirely of wood, two-wheeled, hard to move, and made the most unearthly creaking at every turn of the wheels. Such were the carts in which the ancient Germans carried their families on their migrations, and in which the French traders came to St. Paul from the Red River Valley about fifty years ago. (Fig. 29.) Carts of this type are still largely used in Mexico and other backward countries. But crude as they were, wooden carts increased at least tenfold the loads that could be moved.



FIG. 29. *The old way—Red River carts.*

With improved wagons, the increase was twenty-five to a hundredfold. The invention of the cart was consequently the

basis of land transportation and, therefore in great measure, of civilization, from the age of the Pyramid Builders to that of Queen Victoria.

**91. The Construction of Roads.** Wheeled vehicles, however, were clearly limited to the open plains until roads had been constructed. Road building, therefore, marked the next great advance in land transportation. First begun in Mesopotamia, this work was carried out on a grand scale by the kings of Persia and later, in a still more magnificent way, by the Romans, whose roads were apparently built not for time but for eternity.

For nearly two thousand years all western Europe depended on these Roman roads, using and abusing them with seldom a thought of repairs. It was not until the nineteenth century (1816), when Macadam applied the method of road-making named from him, that decent roads again began to be constructed on any considerable scale. But at present, with the exception of Spain and Portugal, which still linger in the pack-mule and wooden-cart stage of civilization, every country in western Europe has a network of splendid highways, stone-surfaced and with easy grades.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the United States. For the most part, especially in the West, the country districts still depend on dirt roads that become quagmires for several months each year, and even in their best condition compel loads to be reduced nearly three-fourths as compared with macadamized roads.<sup>1</sup> (Fig. 30.) On dirt roads, haulage thus costs fully twenty-five cents per ton-mile against six cents on macadamized roads. Moreover, the farmers are forced to market their crops whenever the roads are good, even though (as usually happens) the prices are then low; and the railroads are compelled to keep thousands of cars standing idle most of the year in order to have enough when the crops are moving. The cost of marketing crops is a crushing burden on American agriculture and American commerce.

<sup>1</sup>Jenks, *Road Legislation*. p. 12. (Am. Econ. Assoc. 1889.)



airbrake will stop the heaviest train in a short space. Special types of cars have also been developed for live stock, iron ore, coal, and perishable products. Refrigerator and heater cars enable perishable goods to be shipped across the continent, alike in summer or in winter. Electric railways, reaching out in all directions from the cities, are now extending modern transportation facilities even to rural districts. (Fig. 32.)



FIG. 32. Trolley lines in the Middle West.

All of these improvements affecting the three parts of the railway—track, engine, and car—have proportionately cheapened transportation, promoted the geographic division of labor, and therefore increased commerce. (Fig. 33.)

**93. Pipe Lines.** The earliest form of the pipe line was an open conduit. Canals thus served to irrigate dry regions like Egypt, drain swampy countries like Holland, and furnish cities with water. The Greeks and Romans built splendid stone aqueducts, whose ruins, dotting all the shores of the Mediterranean, are among the most impressive monuments of antiquity.



*a. The familiar way—Twentieth Century Limited.*



Courtesy of Bureau of Manufactures

*b. The new way—Electric traction.*



Courtesy of Aero Publishing Co.

*c. The newest way—Flying machine.*

**FIG. 33. Modern progress in transportation.**

At present conduits are usually closed, except drainage and irrigation canals. Closed conduits or pipe lines serve sometimes for irrigation purposes, and commonly for carrying city water, gas, heat, sewage, and petroleum. The oil pipes extend for hundreds of miles across valleys and mountains, usually from oil fields to tidewater. (Fig. 71.) Steam or hydraulic pumps are used where gravity will not suffice to move the oil. The cost of transporting oil by pipe lines is less than a third of the average railway freight rate in the United States.<sup>1</sup> Even for irrigation purposes pipe lines are coming



Courtesy of U. S. Geological Survey

FIG. 34. *Old irrigation flume and new redwood stave pipe replacing it.*

into use, as they can be carried over valleys without expensive trestles. (Fig. 34.) In some cities, pneumatic tubes, built on the principle of a boy's air rifle, are used to expedite the handling of mail matter between postal stations.

**94. Inland Navigation.** Friction is less in the water than on the land; a horse can draw many times the weight in water that he can by road. Moreover, natural water ways are furnished free, and they never wear out. For these reasons

<sup>1</sup>The *Bureau of Corporations* reported the cost by trunk pipe lines as 2.38 mills per ton per mile, against an average freight rate by rail of 7.59 mills in 1907. (Report on Transportation of Petroleum.)

rivers constituted, until the last half century, the principal highways of inland commerce alike in Europe and America.

The first effect of steam was temporarily to increase the value of inland water ways, owing to the cost of building railways. The half century before our Civil War was thus, in America at least, the golden age of river navigation. But thereafter, the greater regularity and speed of railways, especially where the water ways were icebound in winter, caused many rivers once thronged with traffic to be practically deserted. Such was the fate of the Missouri. The same fate overtook the smaller canals, while many others were bought up by the railways and either put out of service or prevented, by means of high canal tolls and inefficient service, from competing with the railways.

The almost exclusive reign of the railway is now, in turn, drawing to a close. Water transportation has proved indispensable, if bulky commodities such as stone, coal, ore, and timber are to be handled on a large scale at low cost. To move such commodities downstream flat steel barges have been designed which carry a heavy load yet draw only two or three feet of water. Even streams with very rapid currents are rendered navigable by a steel chain in mid-channel which the vessel grips with a wheel driven by steam. In all these improvements the lead has been taken by Germany.

To compete with the railway, however, except for downstream traffic, a greater depth of water is necessary than in former years. The Eleventh Census counted all rivers as navigable which had a depth of three feet; but to-day any river having a depth of less than six feet is inadequate and almost useless for general transportation. Canals, being narrower and navigated at a slower speed in order to avoid washing away the banks, are of little use unless twelve feet or more in depth so as to carry deep-draft barges.

**95. Ship Canals.** Most important of inland water ways are those ship canals which pierce land barriers, thereby connecting different seas, like the Suez Canal. The Panama Canal,

when completed, will modify ocean trade routes no less profoundly than did the Suez Canal. In the second rank are the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal, from the North Sea to the Baltic, and the Corinth Canal which renders southern Greece an island.

In another class, ranking only a little below deep navigable rivers, are those ship canals which carry the sea to inland cities. Such are the great ship canals extending from the sea to Manchester, Amsterdam (on a bay too shallow for large vessels), Rotterdam, Ghent, and Bruges.

Measured by tonnage, the Sault Ste. Marie canals connecting lakes Superior and Huron, though inland, far outrank even the Suez Canal.

**96. The Unity of the Sea.** The Greeks under Xenophon, fighting their way back from Babylon against all the forces of the Persian monarchy, came one day to the top of a mountain whence they caught the gleam of the distant sea. Forthwith they fell to weeping and embracing one another, crying out, "*Thalassa! Thalassa!*" (The Sea! The Sea!); for they knew that they were saved. However distant, it was the same sea which washed the shores of their native land.

This fact is fundamental in history and commerce: the lands are many but the sea is one. Mountains, deserts, even continents separate, but the sea unites. Whoever stands upon its shores has before him an open pathway which he may follow, without let or hindrance, wherever the salt waves dash and the sea winds blow, even to the ends of the earth. It is this fact which alone renders possible world commerce.

**97. Ocean Navigation.** On the sea, sails remained the general motive power for more than five hundred years—from the latter part of the Middle Ages down to the middle of the nineteenth century. Then the greater speed and regularity of steamers began to tell. The decline of sailing tonnage was hastened by the Suez Canal (1869), which lies, like the proposed Panama Canal, in a region of calms. Recently, however, a new type of sailing vessel has appeared, of large

size, steel built, and equipped with auxiliary engines to handle the sails and cargo and sometimes to enter and leave port without assistance. (Fig. 35.) Such vessels will carry a larger cargo than a steamer of equal size, with a smaller crew, little expense for coal, and at but slightly lower speed.<sup>1</sup> In voyages of 5,000 miles or over, sailing vessels would seem to have a material advantage, because so much of the space in steamers is taken up by coal.

The first ocean steamships (Fig. 36) were small wooden side-wheelers which depended more on sails than steamers. Sea-going steamers to-day are mostly built of Bessemer steel, with double bottoms, several water-tight compartments, and are driven by high-pressure engines, which are attached to screw propellers. "Ocean greyhounds" now cross the Atlantic in less than five days, but at enormous cost for fuel. Their practical commercial value, except as carriers of passengers and mail, is therefore slight. The bulk of the world's commerce is borne by another type of vessel, the freighter, broad of beam and rather slow, but of enormous carrying capacity and very



Courtesy of H. H. Morrison

FIG. 35. *The modern steel sailing ship.*

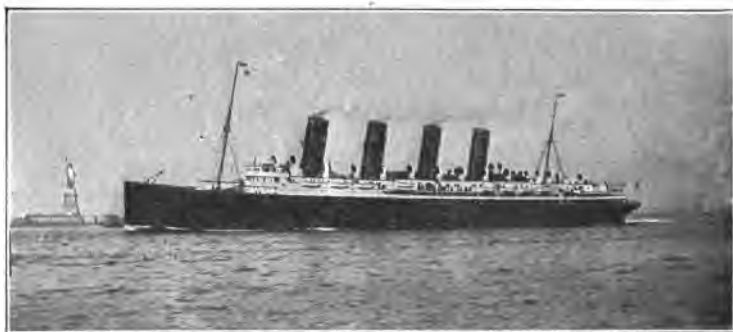
<sup>1</sup>For example, the "Preussen" carrying over 5,000 tons of freight, sailed from Hamburg to Iquique (nearly 12 000 miles by the sailing route) in fifty-seven days.

economical of coal. For example, the "Minnesota," a vessel of this type built for the oriental trade, will carry at one trip the contents of seven miles of freight cars (2,000 cars or fifty trains) and at an exceedingly low cost.



a. The "Savannah," the first ship to use steam in crossing the ocean (1819).

In the face of such achievements, it is no exaggeration to say that the ocean is alone completely subdued to the uses of man. The land, man's home, still exacts a heavy tribute, while the air cannot yet be used for practical transportation purposes.



Copyright, 1909, by Enrique Muller, N. Y.

b. The "Mauritania."

FIG. 36. The old and the new in ocean steamships.

**98. How Transportation Rates Are Fixed.** Transportation charges are fixed, as a rule, not according to the cost of the haul, but according to the supposed value of the service to the shipper. In railway circles this policy is called "putting on what the traffic will bear;" and its object, from the point

of view of the railway manager, is (in the words of a French statesman) "to pluck the goose so as to secure the maximum of feathers with the minimum of squawking."

From the economic view-point, however, the justification of the value-of-service principle lies in the fact that heavy commodities of low value, such as coal, ore, and timber, which obviously are the most expensive to haul, must be carried at very low rates, or they cannot be moved at all; yet it is essential to the utilization of natural resources and the development of industry and commerce that such commodities be transported wherever needed.

While value of service is the general principle governing transportation rates, it is subject to many modifications in practice. For example, there is a high rate on some goods, such as agricultural implements, because they take up much room. Again, the rate is relatively higher on short than on long hauls because, for one thing, the expense of loading and unloading is just as great for a short as a long haul. Finally, the rates by rail between certain districts are profoundly affected by competition, especially the competition of water ways.

In the case of the post, the value-of-service principle appears in the higher rate paid on letters than on printed matter. But a flat (or uniform) rate is made on each class of mail matter within a country, irrespective of the distance, because the larger part of the cost is due to the collection and distribution of the mail, and consequently does not vary with the distance.

For similar reasons it would seem that a flat rate would be economically justifiable on express, or parcel post, telegraph, and telephone traffic, at least within very wide zones. In point of fact, rates are commonly fixed on this basis in countries where the government operates these businesses as a part of the postal system.



## VIII—THE PRINCIPAL RAW MATERIALS OF COMMERCE

**99. The Uses of Wild Animals.** To savage man, wild animals were the staff of life; to civilized man, they are largely a means of recreation. The delight in hunting and fishing, felt by all right-minded boys and most men, harks back to the ages when to be "a mighty hunter before the Lord" meant all that it means to-day to be a captain of industry.

By reason of this hunting instinct in man, the fish and game of forested regions like northern Maine and Minnesota are a commercial asset of large value, drawing yearly thousands of visitors.

From wild animals are also obtained several important commodities, especially furs, feathers, and ivory.

**100. Furs, Feathers, and Ivory.** Since the days when the inhabitants of northern Europe were clad in the skins of wild beasts, according to the Roman writers, furs have been an important article of commerce. Their influence in opening up new lands has been very great. It was fish that brought the French to Canada, but furs that drew them ever farther into the interior of the continent.

Furs are mainly the product of cold, forested regions, such as northern Canada and Siberia; though some animals, particularly the muskrat, mink, and skunk, are still found in settled districts.

Ornamental feathers and ivory, on the other hand, come mainly from warm countries, where birds of bright plumage and ivory-bearing animals such as the elephant and hippopotamus are now at home. Some fossil ivory is also obtained in Siberia, where the mammoth once abounded.

**101. The Harvest of the Sea.** More valuable, however, than furs or ivory are fish, which form the only considerable food supply still produced spontaneously by nature.

Fish abound in nearly all shallow waters, but are firmer fleshed in cold regions, where they can also be more readily cured or marketed without spoiling. The most important fishing banks or shoals are consequently near the continents in high latitudes, where the fish feed or spawn at certain seasons. The species of greatest commercial value are the cod, herring (Fig. 37), and mackerel in the Atlantic Ocean, and the salmon in rivers tributary to the Pacific. Important also are the lobster and several shellfish, especially the oyster.



FIG. 37. *Pursing a seine about a school of herring in Boston Harbor.*

By means of refrigeration fresh fish now reach the interior of the continents. Cured fish (dried, smoked, or pickled) are largely consumed in the Tropics, since they will keep indefinitely and are cheaper and less heating than meat. Salmon are mostly canned for market.

Other marine products are whale oil and whalebone, walrus skins and seal skins from cold waters; pearls, pearl and tortoise shells, coral, and sponges from tropical waters.

**102. Dairy Products.** Wandering shepherd tribes were the first to make use of dairy products, employing as milch animals sheep, goats, and horses, as well as cattle. The goat

is still the milch animal of hot countries, as the cow is of cool regions. Roquefort cheese is made from the milk of sheep; Parmesan cheese from the milk of goats.

As a factor in international commerce, however, the dairy industry depends mainly upon the cow, and consequently tends more and more to be localized in cool, well-watered regions having abundant pasturage. (Fig. 38.) This localization is especially noticeable where the land is too wet for grain farming, as in Holland; or too sandy, as in Denmark; or too broken, as in Switzerland; or too valuable, as in the eastern part of the United States near great cities. Owing to steam

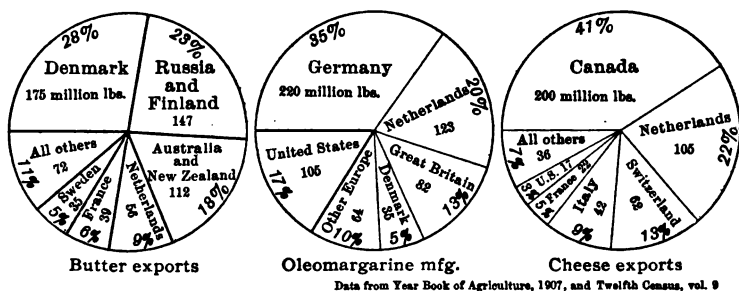


FIG. 38. Dairy products and substitutes. Totals, 1906 (million lbs.): butter exports, 636; oleomargarine made, 620; cheese exports, 484.

transportation and refrigeration, butter now reaches the London market in prime condition even from New Zealand, on the opposite side of the globe.

**103. Eggs and Honey.** Similar to the dairy business and often associated with it is the keeping of bees and poultry for their products. The quality of honey seems to depend in part on the soil, which affects the nectar of flowers. Mount Hymettos, near Athens, has been renowned for honey since ancient times. The keeping of poultry for eggs has received a great impetus from the use of cold storage. The poultry industry is most profitable and therefore most important in well-drained regions, where grain or other food is abundant and cheap, especially where small farms prevail.

**104. Meat Products.** Before the days of railroads each farmer kept a few head of stock for his own use. Steam has now, to a great extent, concentrated the grazing industry in regions too dry for agriculture, though the feeding industry (fattening stock for the market) is largely carried on in agricultural districts; for example, in the corn belt of the United States. Grazing regions are found on the dry side of mountain ranges, as in Australia and South Africa.

Swine are raised as consumers of waste materials in many parts of the cool zones. Thus in Denmark, where the principal product is butter, the raising of swine on the skim milk is an important by-industry. Swine are also raised on a large scale in two districts, both possessing food of a high fattening

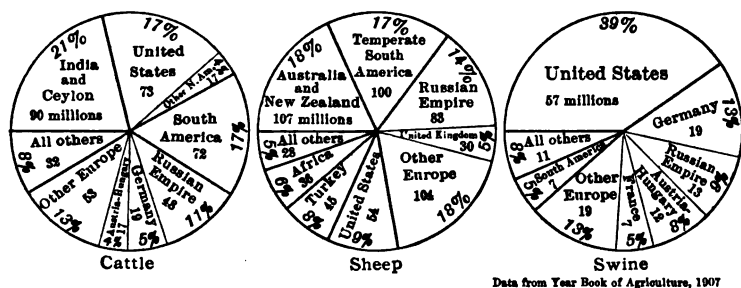


FIG. 39. Live stock in 1907 or latest available year. Totals (in millions): cattle, 421; sheep, 587; swine, 145.

power: the oak forests of the Balkan Peninsula, where the swine run at large and feed on acorns, and the United States, where they are fed on corn. (Fig. 39.)

Refrigerated and canned meats have largely taken the place (except in the case of pork) of the salted, smoked, and sun-dried meats so generally consumed a generation ago.

**105. Leather and Animal Fibers.** All the larger animals, including the alligator and walrus, furnish skins suitable for leather.

Men early learned how to preserve skins from decay, either by rubbing in oil, as the Indians did in tanning buckskin, or



Courtesy of Bureau of Animal Industry

FIG. 40. *Angora goats in the dry Southwest.*

by soaking the skins in a solution of some plant containing tannic acid, such as oak or hemlock bark. Before the days of refrigeration, in districts remote from markets like Argentina, cattle were commonly raised for their hides alone.

The principal animal fiber used in weaving cloth is wool. This is obtained commercially not only from the sheep, but also from the Angora (Fig. 40) and the Cashmere goat, from some varieties of camels, and from the alpaca and vicuña of the Andes. The finest wool, such as merino, comes as a rule from dry uplands. Both sheep and goats flourish where cattle would starve. As a result of steam transportation, the industry of wool growing has largely shifted to the semi-arid parts of Australia, Argentina, South Africa, and the United States.

The fur of squirrels, rabbits, nutria (an animal from Argentina resembling the beaver), and domestic cats is also pressed or "felted" into a kind of cloth used in the manufacture of hats. The felting quality is due to saw-like teeth on each fiber, so small that they can be seen only through a microscope.

Next to wool, the most important animal fiber is silk. This is the gossamer-like thread spun by the silkworm, a caterpillar that feeds on the mulberry tree. China, where silk was first used, was long known to Europe as *Serica*, "the Land of Silk." Eastern Asia still furnishes the bulk of the raw silk. An artificial silk is now made from vegetable matter which is much cheaper and hardly to be distinguished in appearance from the genuine article.

**106. How Plants Connect Man with the Earth.** Savage man, living by the chase, was indeed exposed in person to all the rigors of climate. The Indian in his wigwam had little protection against storm or frost. Nevertheless, his mode of life was largely independent of soil and climate, except as these affected the game which he pursued. The practice of agriculture, on the other hand, at once rendered man directly dependent, for the necessities of life, upon soil and climate.

Following this mode of life, he could live only where his food and fiber crops would ripen.

**107. Forest Products.** The forest was no doubt the original home of man, and timber the first material used for tools and weapons. Its value has not lessened, though its uses have changed with the advance of civilization.

The temperate forests contribute to commerce chiefly soft woods, such as pine, fir, and spruce, which are at once durable

and easily worked, besides turpentine, pitch, and rosin<sup>1</sup> obtained from the same species.

Tropical forests yield cabinet woods of great beauty, such as mahogany and rosewood. These woods are very costly because scattered through dense jungles and therefore difficult to get out. Tropical forests also produce numerous drugs, dyestuffs, resins, gums; and,



**FIG. 41.** *Freshly tapped gutta-percha tree, with leaves spread to catch the flow.*

most important of all, rubber and gutta-percha. (Fig. 41.) These substances are found in the sap of many plants in no wise related to one another.

The rubber industry, founded on Mackintosh's invention (1820) of waterproof goods, and Goodyear's discovery

<sup>1</sup>Resin is a general term for sap products soluble in alcohol or turpentine, but not soluble in water. It therefore includes rosin as a special variety. A gum, on the other hand, is soluble in water, but not soluble in alcohol or turpentine. Gum-arabic, used in mucilage, is an example.

(patented 1844) that rubber can be hardened by sulphur, has received an additional impetus from the use of rubber tires on carriages, bicycles, and automobiles.

Gutta-percha is indispensable for coating submarine telegraph cables, being resistant to the action of salt water.

**108. Cultivated Plants.** Some species of plants, as of animals, are useful to man: these are his friends. Others enter into competition for the same food or the same soils: these are his enemies.

Competitors for the same food are parasitic plants, such as fungi, and countless varieties of insects that feed upon what the farmer has planted for his own use. Competitors for the same soil are all wild and useless plants, called weeds, which tend to choke out the crops.

Some one has asked why crops do not thrive untended, in place of weeds. The answer is simple. By selecting the seeds man develops the qualities in plants which suit his purpose, but they are seldom qualities which fit the plant for the natural struggle for existence. Crops do not thrive untended because weeds are natural, while crops are, in a sense, artificial.

**109. Fruits and Nuts.** In the Tropical and Subtropical zones, certain fruits and nuts are the chief support of large populations; for example, the mango and bread fruit in the East Indies. Others also enter extensively into commerce. Such are the date, fig, and cocoanut (Fig. 42), all dried for export; the grape, yielding raisins and wine; the olive, native to the dry subtropical region, which is either pickled or crushed for oil; the almond, chestnut, pecan, and walnut, which form the chief nuts of commerce. Even fresh southern fruits, especially the banana and orange, now appear in northern markets through the agency of rapid transportation and cold storage.

This is no doubt the beginning of a commercial movement by which the fertile soil of tropical lands, where it is always summer and harvest time never ends, will be increasingly laid



under contribution to feed the colder and, in this respect, less-favored regions of the earth.

In the Temperate zones, the leading fruits are the plum known when dried as the prune, and the apple, which will keep for months in its natural condition. The processes of canning and preserving have largely increased the commercial importance of perishable fruits like the peach and pear.

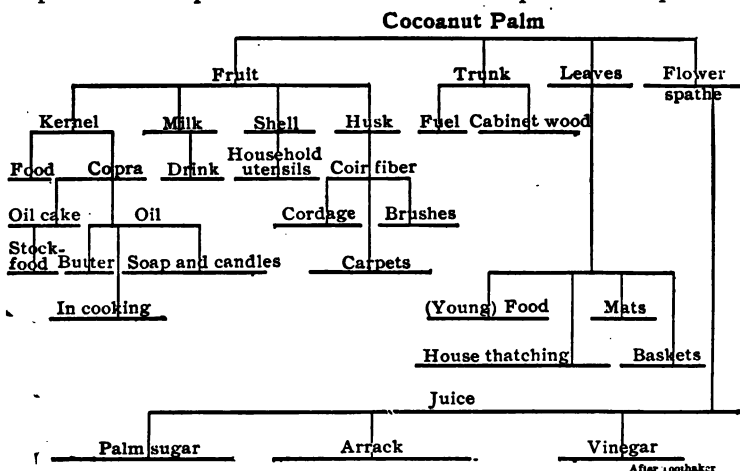


FIG. 42. *The uses of the cocoanut palm.*

**110. Root and Pod Crops.** In warm countries edible roots and stocks largely take the place of grain. This is the case, for example, with yams and sweet potatoes in the West Indies; *taró* in Hawaii; the sago palm, the pith of which forms the sago of commerce, in the East Indies; and manioc (cassava, yucca), which yields tapioca, in Brazil and Central Africa.

Pod crops also serve as a partial substitute for meat in such countries; for example, chick-peas in Spain and North Africa, and soy beans in India.

In the Temperate zones the principal root crop is the potato, native to America, which formed the basis of the Inca civilization in Peru. It will grow on poor soil, at high altitudes

and latitudes, maturing nearer the pole ( $70^{\circ} 40'$  in Norway) than any cereal. Next in acreage and value is the onion.

Root crops are in general too bulky to be important commercially. Moreover, the predominance of root crops for food, as in the Tropics, usually marks an inferior stage of agriculture and of civilization. Root crops are, however, commonly rotated with grain on the same soil, where scientific farming prevails.

**III. The Cereals.** The grains are mainly seed-bearing grasses. Barley, which Pliny considered the most ancient food of man, has the widest climatic range ( $20^{\circ}$  to  $70^{\circ}$  north

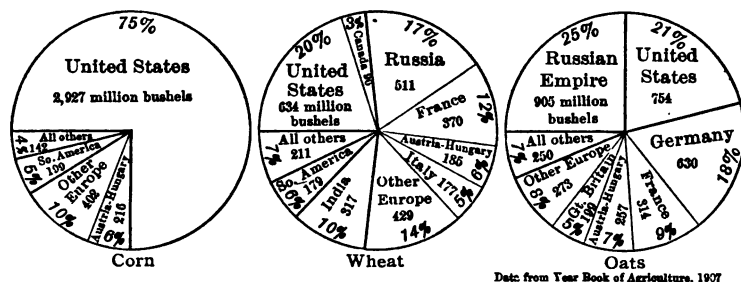


FIG. 43. World crops of corn, wheat, and oats. Totals in 1907 (million bushels): corn, 3,886; wheat, 3,109; oats, 3,582.

latitude). Though formerly the chief breadstuff of the Hebrews, Greeks, and Romans, it is now more commonly fed to stock. With hops, it is also used in brewing beer.

The principal tropical grains are rice, grown mostly in standing water, and millet (*durrah*), which needs a dry soil. Rice supports nearly a third of the human race in eastern Asia; millet is the leading cereal in the dry parts of India and Africa.

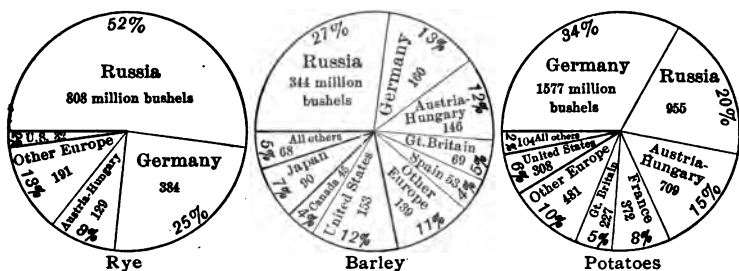
The warm temperate grains are corn (maize) and winter wheat; the cool temperate grains are spring wheat, oats, and rye. (Fig. 43.)

Corn needs a warm, moist climate and is consequently grown chiefly in regions of summer rains. It was widely cultivated in America before Columbus, and still has probably the

largest acreage of any grain in the New World.<sup>1</sup> It is mostly fed to live stock, though much is made into starch, glucose (a substitute for sugar), molasses, and whisky. (Fig. 45.)

Wheat, of both the winter and spring varieties, flourishes best in a region of winter or spring rains but warm and rather dry summers. It is the staff of life for the white, as rice is for the yellow, race and enters more largely into commerce than any other cereal. (Fig. 43.)

Oats and rye flourish in cooler and moister climates, rye also on poorer soil, than wheat. Oats was apparently the original breadstuff of northern Europe, but now serves chiefly as horse



Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907

FIG. 44. World crops of rye, barley, and potatoes. Totals in 1907 (million bushels): rye, 1,546; barley, 1,267; potatoes, 4,731.

feed. Barley, maize, and oats are thus the principal fodder grains. Rye forms the "black bread" of the peasants in Europe and, like corn, is used in distilleries. (Fig. 44.)

Buckwheat, a relative of our common dock or sorrel, will grow on even more sandy soil, and in a shorter season, than rye. For this reason it is a favorite crop in the mountains, and serves as a "catch crop" elsewhere, being sown after some other crop has failed.

**112. Condiments.** In former times, when nearly all meats were dried or salted, East India spices<sup>2</sup> were in greater demand

<sup>1</sup>Water rice (*Zizania aquatica*) was another important food of the Indians. Analysis shows it to be perhaps the most perfect cereal, but no practical methods of cultivation have been as yet devised.

<sup>2</sup>Chiefly black pepper, cloves, nutmegs, and cinnamon. Pimento, red pepper, and vanilla were native to America. Mustard, a temperate country plant, is widely used, yet figures little in foreign trade.

than at present, owing to their biting, aromatic qualities. During the Middle Ages, indeed, condiments were more important commercially than foodstuffs. Pepper and vanilla are now the most important of the spices in commerce.

During the last few centuries, sugar, previously unknown, has become the leading condiment. It now ranks with wheat and cotton as a world commodity. The principal sources of sugar are the sugar cane and sugar beet. India is the largest producer of cane sugar, though Cuban sugar is more important commercially. Germany leads in beet sugar. (Fig. 278.)

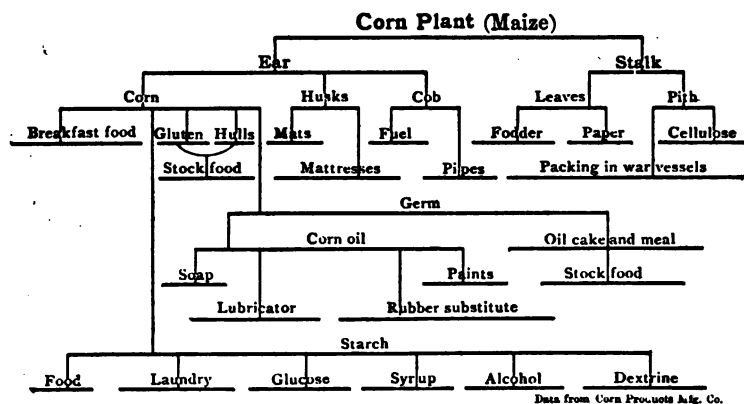


FIG. 45. *Industrial uses of the corn plant.*

**113. Stimulants.** Several plants which stimulate the nervous system have also become of great commercial importance in modern times. Such are coffee, native to the mountains of Abyssinia, and tea, apparently first used in China. Curiously enough, cocoa (or cacao), an American plant having a similar stimulating effect, became known in Europe a century before either tea or coffee, both Old World products. Chocolate is a preparation of cocoa.

Another plant native to America, though now grown in many parts of the world, is tobacco. In eastern Asia opium is commonly smoked in place of tobacco. There are in addition many narcotic plants employed only in certain countries.

An artificial stimulant is alcohol, produced either by fermentation, as in wine, cider, and beer; or by distillation, as in rum, brandy, and whisky. Any fruit or grain, besides potatoes, molasses, and honey, may be used for this purpose.

**114. Fiber Crops.** Next to food, the most imperative need of man is clothing. Flax (linen) is found in prehistoric lake dwellings of Switzerland, and in Egyptian tombs that antedate the pyramids. It is, however, too expensive for common use, because the fiber must be separated from the stalk by hand.

For this reason cotton has become, since the invention of the cotton gin (1793), the leading vegetable fiber. (Fig. 46.) The trade in cotton and cotton manufactures is perhaps the

54%	14%	14%	10%	7%	1%
Cotton 9,787 million pounds	Wool 2,617.6	Jute 2,594	Flax 1,846	Hemp 1,188.9	Silk 200.7

43%	25%	13%	6%	5%	3%
Cotton 925 million dollars	Wool 471	Silk 265	Flax 116	Jute 91	Hemp 68

Data from Census Bulletin, 103

FIG. 46. *Production and value of leading textile fibers.*

most important branch of international commerce. Cotton will indeed grow in a variety of climates, but produces the finest fiber in a warm climate near salt water. Abundant moisture is also necessary. The principal cotton-growing countries are the United States, India, and Egypt. (Fig. 47.)

There are four fibers of commercial importance for bags and cordage. Hemp was originally in sole possession of the market; but as no satisfactory gin has been invented to extract the fiber, hemp has been largely superseded, for bags, by jute grown in India where labor is cheap; and for cordage, by sisal (*henequen*) from Mexico. For heavy ropes, however, Manila "hemp" (*abaca*) is indispensable.

**115. The Influence of Minerals.** Civilized man depends for the advantages he enjoys over his barbarous ancestors chiefly

on the mineral kingdom. Take away the minerals and all modern manufactures would become impossible, and commerce, except in the original form of barter from tribe to tribe, would speedily disappear from the face of the earth.

In all ages important mineral deposits have consequently attracted population: as shown by Stonehenge, over the flint beds which once furnished tools and weapons for England; and innumerable mining towns to-day. Butte, Mont., a copper

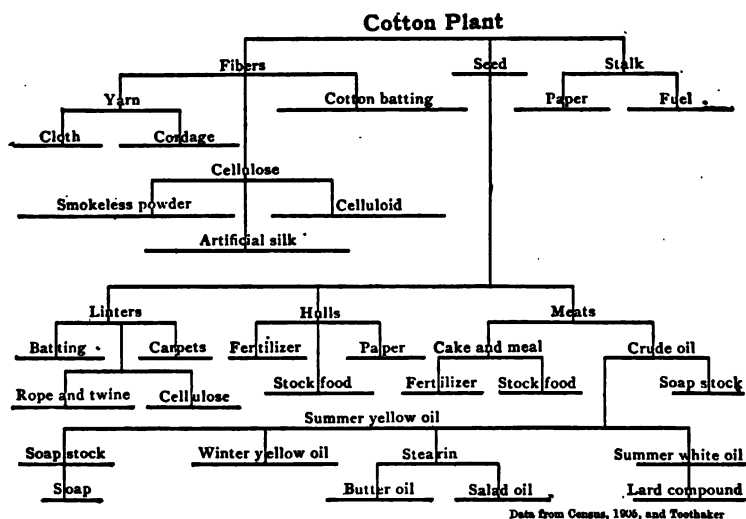


FIG. 47. *Industrial uses of the cotton plant.*

city, and Johannesburg, South Africa, a city built on gold, are typical examples.

**116. Structural Materials.** Stone, copper, and iron have successively formed the mechanical basis of civilization, and have given their names to the ages of Stone, Bronze, and Iron.

Stone, which was no doubt the first, is still one of the most important of the mineral resources used by man. It now serves chiefly for buildings and for surfacing highways.

Where neither timber nor stone was available a serious difficulty arose. Nomads could live in tents; but what was

civilized man to do? This problem was solved by the invention of brick, which alone made possible the palaces, the cities, and the gigantic walls of ancient Mesopotamia.<sup>1</sup> In modern times, especially in the United States, brick is coming into ever wider use as our forest resources dwindle. Tile and pottery, like brick, are also made chiefly of clay.

Another structural material invented in prehistoric times was glass, doubtless made at first by melting together sand and salt from the seashore. Without glass or coal, it is difficult to see how civilization could exist at all in high latitudes.

In recent years there has been a striking development of the cement industry. Portland cement, made usually of limestone and clay heated to about 3,000° F., has the invaluable quality of setting or hardening under water. Without this material, more durable than natural rock, railroad tunnels, subways, and concrete construction generally would present great, if not insuperable, difficulties.

Cement and steel are indeed the mechanical bases of modern industry and transportation.

**117. Mineral Fertilizers.** Experience shows that there are three elements which tend to become exhausted in soils continuously under cultivation, yet are absolutely necessary to crop production. These elements are nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. The problem of feeding the ever-growing population of the world, therefore, largely resolves itself into the problem of restoring these elements to the soil as fast as needed. For this purpose, certain mineral fertilizers are of the utmost value.

Nitrogen occurs abundantly in the form of nitrate of soda in the arid region of northern Chile. It is also possible to obtain a usable form of nitrate (*ammonium sulphate*) as a by-product from coke ovens, and even to manufacture artificial nitrates, though these processes are still relatively expensive.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>R. von Ihering, *The Evolution of the Aryan*.

<sup>2</sup>Nitrate of lime, by the use of a powerful electric current; and calcium cyanamide, by passing air over hot calcium carbide. The source of the nitrogen in both cases is the air.

Nitrogen can likewise be restored to the soil by planting clover or other legumes which have the power (through bacteria inhabiting their roots) of getting nitrogen from the air.

Phosphorus is obtained from phosphate-rock deposits in various regions, notably the South; and also from the slag of steel mills using the basic process.

Potassium, or potash, occurs in great deposits near Stassfurt, Germany. It is also a constituent of wood ashes.

**118. Copper.** In Homeric Greece the leading material for tools and weapons was copper alloyed with tin to form a hard and tenacious bronze.

In modern times copper is also alloyed with zinc to form brass, and with aluminum and manganese to form other kinds of bronze. Manganese bronze, being tough and enduring, is employed for steamship propellers. Copper has, however, been restored to the rank of a great industrial metal, second only to iron, mainly through the fact that it is one of the best conductors of electricity.

**119. Iron and Steel.** Iron was difficult to master on account of its high fusing point (about 2,790° F.). But iron, with its derivative, steel, is the basis of all modern industries; for no other metal is so well adapted to fine tools or power machinery for either manufacturing or transportation. The production of iron and steel is, therefore, generally taken as an index of the relative industrial development of nations. Cast iron contains up to 5 per cent of carbon, besides other impurities; it is hard but brittle. Steel is of various grades, varying as to its carbon content from .3 to 2.0 per cent; it is in general hard and also tough. Wrought iron contains practically no carbon, and is malleable but soft.

A modern blast furnace consists of a high stack, through which hot air (1,400°–1,650° F.) is constantly driven from below, while from above automatic cars dump in ore, coke, and limestone—the stone to promote fusion. In place of coke, natural gas, petroleum, or electricity may be employed. The molten iron runs into cups moving on an endless chain,





*a. Molten metal pouring into cups on endless chain.*



*b. Dumping cooled iron automatically into waiting cars.*

**FIG. 48. Modern method of handling pig iron.**

or into trenches on the sand floor, forming "pig" iron (Fig. 48); or is carried directly to the steel mill to avoid remelting.

The removal of the carbon necessary to transform iron into steel may be accomplished either by raking or "puddling" in an open-hearth furnace, or by driving a blast of air through the molten metal (Bessemer process). In either case, the carbon is burned out by coming in contact with air. If phosphorus is present, it is absorbed by lime (basic process). To toughen the steel, a little manganese is added; to make it very tenacious it is alloyed with nickel, chromium, or tungsten. Thus, nickel steel is used for steel rails on curves, high-power rifles, and armor plate on warships; chromium steel for burglar-proof safes and for armor-piercing projectiles.

**120. Lead, Zinc, and Tin.** Lead and zinc are frequently associated in nature, and both form compounds used in paints. Metallic lead is used most extensively for water pipes, since water does not corrode it. It is likewise used for bullets, and in various alloys such as type metal. Metallic zinc is used chiefly to protect iron from rust, and in electric batteries.

Tin, being highly malleable and not easily corroded, is also used as a coating on iron. It has become important through the increased use of canned foods.

**121. Precious Metals and Stones.** Gold and silver, also various stones such as the ruby and diamond, early attracted attention by their color and luster. These were consequently used as ornaments and came, through human love of display, to command fabulous prices. For this reason they were called "precious." Most of the silver and much of the gold mined are still consumed in the arts.

Gold is frequently found free in nature, that is, not combined with other substances. It is either washed from river gravels or obtained from quartz veins, by quarrying and crushing the rock. Quartz mines now yield more than the gravels.

Silver usually occurs in combination with other elements, especially lead and copper, and the processes of extraction are often difficult. But silver is far more abundant than gold. Since 1870 its value, compared to gold, has declined more than one-half.

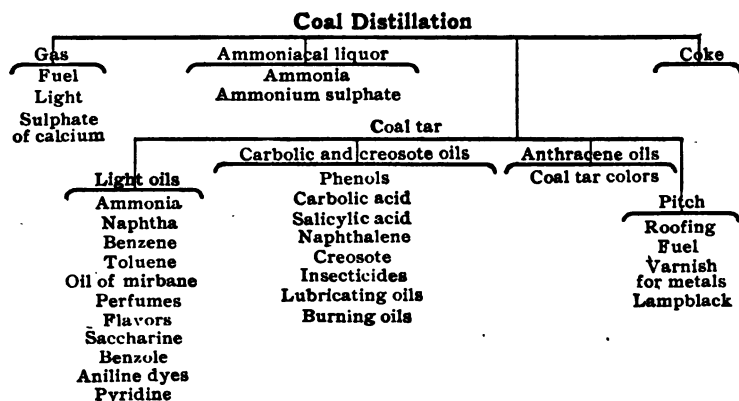
**122. Mineral Fuels.** The ancient Persian Fire Worshipers made pilgrimages to the Caspian Sea, where columns of flame issued from the earth. It remained for Americans to put natural gas to more practical uses (1821). It is thought to have been driven off by heat and pressure from petroleum or coal, and gives an intense heat.

Petroleum or rock oil was first obtained (1859) by boring, in the United States; this country is rivaled only by Russia in its production. The crude oil is an efficient fuel. When refined it yields a whole series of valuable products. (Fig. 49.)



its possible development is largely measured, in so far as it depends upon nature, by the available supply of coal. (Fig. 51.)

Coal, moreover, alone renders commerce possible as conducted to-day. We are carried with the speed of the wind



After Toothaker

FIG. 50. *Industrial products of coal distillation.*

over land and sea because we have harnessed to our service the power of the sun, stored up through millions of years in

43%	31%	10%	7%	9%
United States 280 thousand square miles	China 200	Canada 65	Europe 33	All others 59

Data from Chisholm, Handbook

FIG. 51. *Estimated coal fields of the world.*

the recesses of the earth. Coal is king to-day, though electricity may be king to-morrow.

## PART II

### CONTINENTS AND COUNTRIES

#### IX—THE MAKING OF THE UNITED STATES

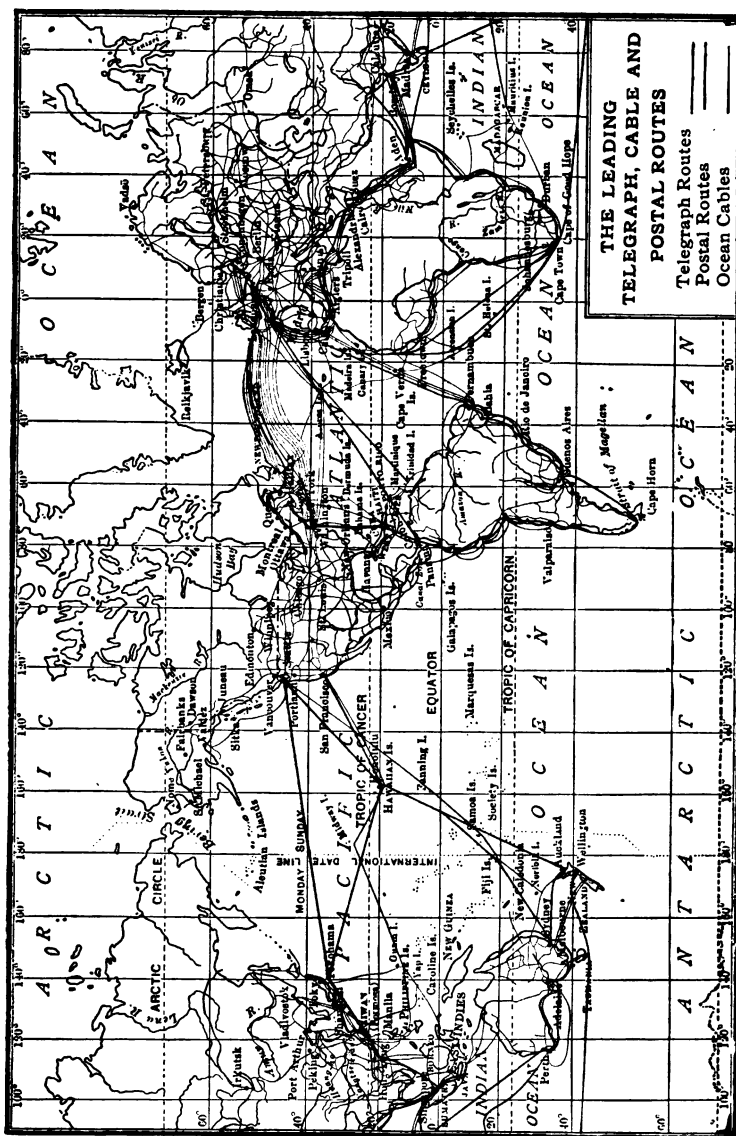
**123. The Position of North America.** North America fronts Europe across a relatively narrow ocean. (Fig. 14.) This has been well called the most important geographic fact relating to the New World. Had America been as near to temperate Asia as it is to Europe, it would doubtless have been peopled by Japanese or Chinese long before the time of Columbus. And had America been as far from Europe as it is from Asia it could not have been so readily colonized by Europeans, nor could the colonies, or the United States, isolated from European influence, have made such rapid progress.

**124. Coast Line and Surface of Temperate North America.** The three physical foundations of material greatness are wealth of territory, wealth of minerals, and wealth of sea coast: the first two giving power of production, the third facilitating the distribution of products. In all three respects, temperate North America is exceptionally well endowed.

In the proportion of coast line to area, North America ranks next to Europe. Moreover, it has five great "unsalted seas" connected with one another and with the ocean—a feature found in no other continent.

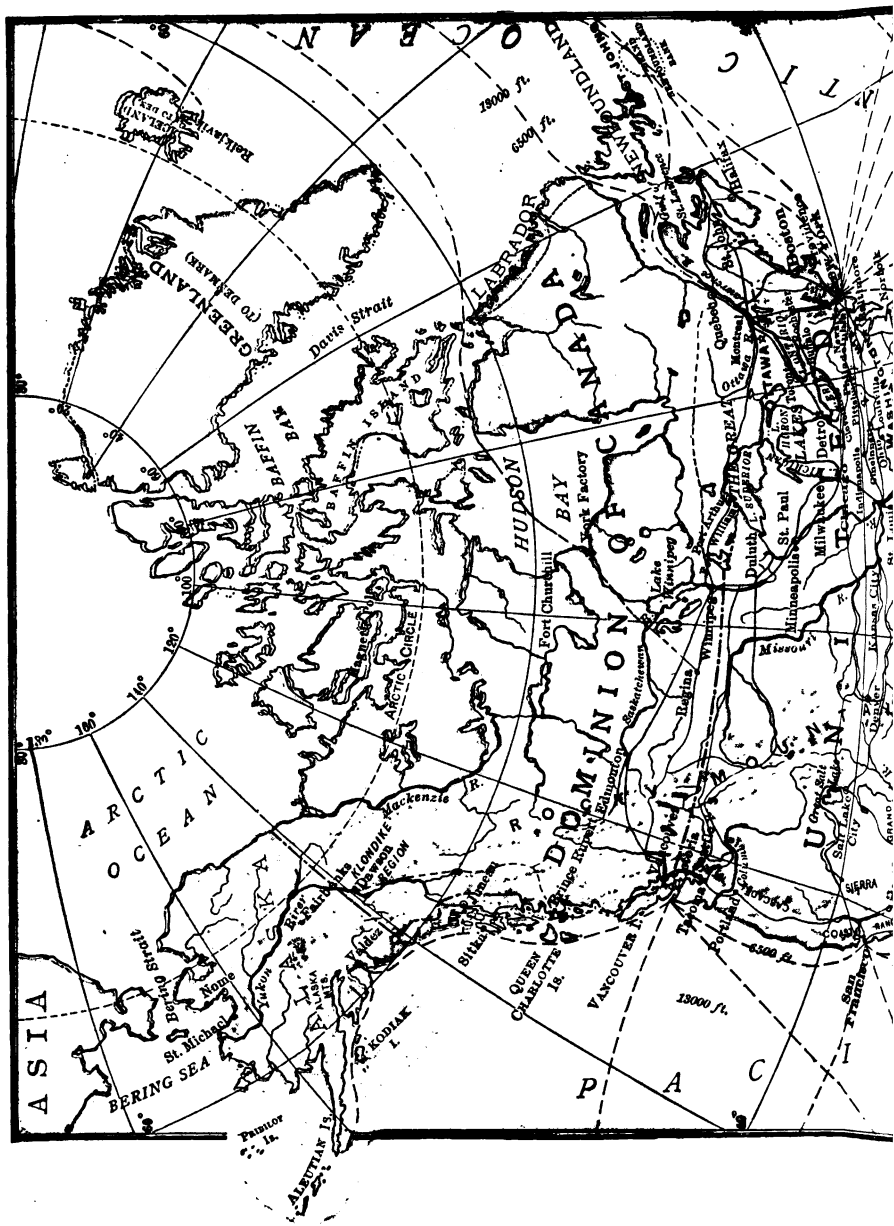
The dominant surface features are two extensive plains, the Coastal Plain bordering the Atlantic, and the Central Plain extending from the Arctic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico; and two great highland areas, the Appalachian and the Cordilleran, both running in a general north-and-south direction, roughly parallel to the oceans. (Fig. 53.)

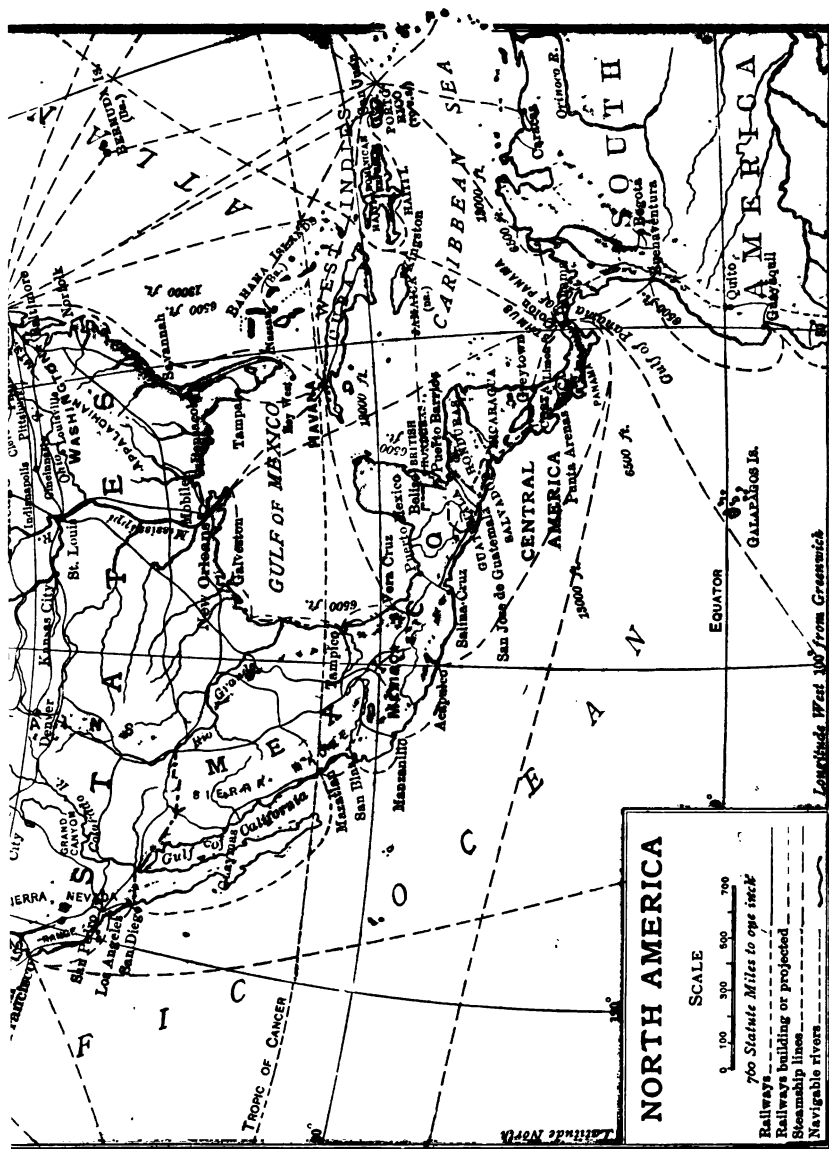
These surface features largely control the distribution of natural resources, the routes of transportation, and the climate



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FIG. 52. Telegraph, Cable, and Postal Routes.

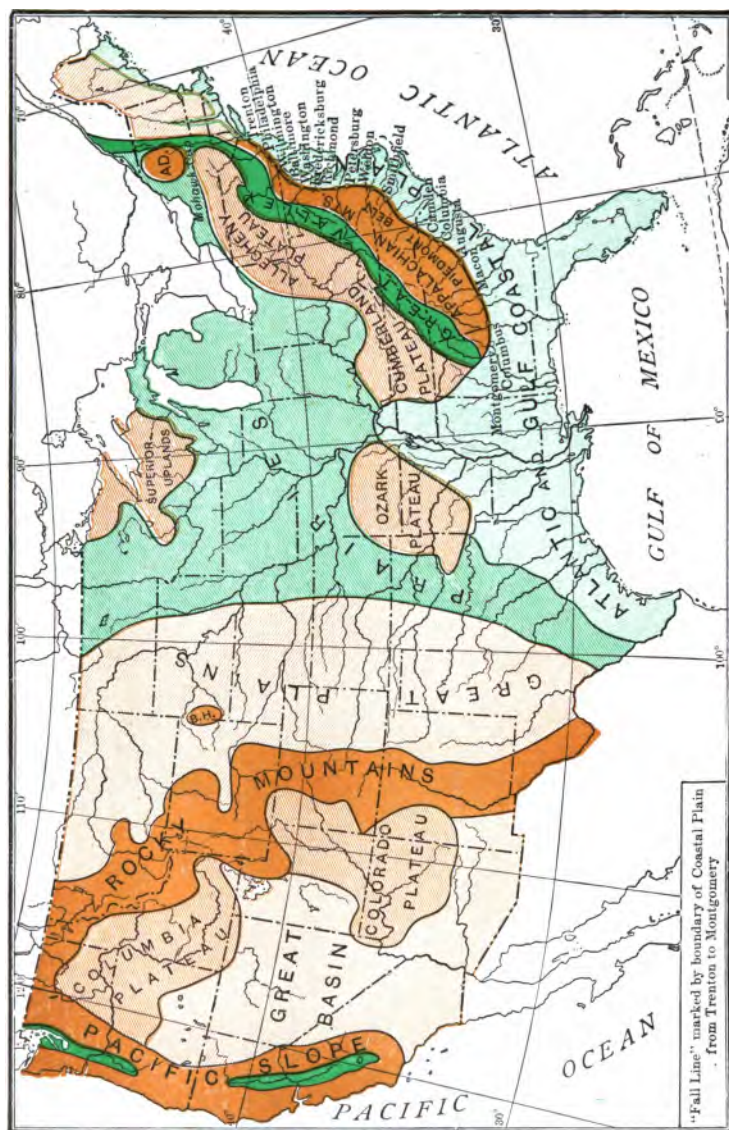




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FIG. 53. North America.





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FIG. 54. Physical divisions of United States.

throughout the continent. As a result, they naturally determine in great part the location of industries and therefore the distribution of population. (Figs. 55 and 58.)

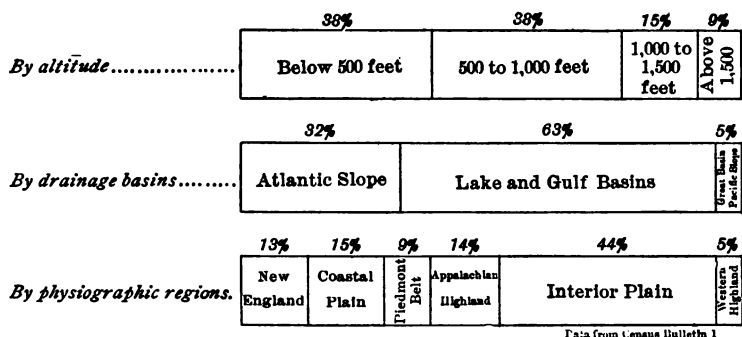


FIG. 55. *Relation of physiography to population in the United States at the Twelfth Census.*

### 125. The Coastal Plain and the Appalachian Highland.

The Coastal Plain, rising gently from the Atlantic, is bordered toward the west by a hilly or Piedmont region extending to the foot of the mountains.

The Appalachian Highland, averaging perhaps 200 miles in width, comprises three distinct divisions: the eastern range, known in Virginia as the Blue Ridge; the Great Valley, forty to sixty miles wide and extending from the St. Lawrence well into Alabama; and fronting this valley on the west (in places as a cliff 1,000 feet high), the rugged Catskill-Allegheny-Cumberland Plateau.

The Great Valley, formed in a belt of weak and easily-eroded rocks, is occupied in part by Lake Champlain, and the upper courses of the Hudson, Delaware, Susquehanna, Potomac, and James rivers, which being older than the mountains have kept their channels open through the slowly rising eastern range. Because of these water gaps, the northern portion of the Great Valley is attached to the seaboard states; while south of Virginia, where the eastern range carries the principal water parting, the Great Valley is part of Tennessee. These

water gaps, moreover, opening natural transportation routes across the mountains, furnished the early routes of migration as they still do of commerce.

As a whole, the Appalachian Highland is much lower and less continuous than the Cordilleran. It is, in fact, entirely cut through by the St. Lawrence and the Hudson-Mohawk valleys, which consequently form, together with the Mississippi, the three principal gateways to the continent. (Fig. 54.)

For this reason, and also because of the wide eastern Coastal Plain, North America commercially faces the Atlantic.

**126. The Central Plain.** The great Central Plain is for the most part of very gentle slope, though it does contain several minor uplands. The three of most importance are the Lake Superior uplands, the Ozarks, and the Black Hills.

This plain is moreover traversed by many large navigable rivers; and it is deeply indented by the Gulf of Mexico, the Great Lakes, and Hudson Bay, which in effect carry the Atlantic, to which they are tributary, into the very heart of the continent. In addition to wide expanse of fertile soil, and to wealth of minerals in its upland districts, the Central Plain thus has unusual natural facilities for commerce.

Portions of Indiana and Illinois, and most of the region west of the Mississippi River and Lake Winnipeg were treeless when the white man came. These are the natural prairies. The western portion of the treeless belt, beginning at the line of 2,000 feet elevation, approximately along the 100th meridian and rising to 4,000 or 5,000 feet near the Rockies, is known as the Great Plains. (Fig. 60.) Here the rivers, owing to the greater elevation, have cut deeper valleys, causing a more rolling and broken surface

**127. The Cordilleran Highland.** The Cordilleran or Western Highland comprises five distinct divisions. The Rocky Mountains, carrying the Continental Divide, present a practically unbroken rampart toward the east, though a tongue of the plains in Wyoming, which determined the course of the Union Pacific Railway, does penetrate some distance into the

mountains. Beyond the Rockies lies a lofty plateau traversed by numerous lesser ranges. It is drained in part by the Colorado, Columbia, Fraser, and Yukon rivers, but also includes the Great Basin in Utah and Nevada, having no outlet to the sea. Beyond this plateau on the west rises the snow-capped Sierra Nevada-Cascade Range. Unlike the Rockies, this range is cut by several water gaps, notably those of the Columbia and Fraser rivers. Beyond this range again, upon the Pacific slope, lie several broad and highly fertile valleys, the San Joaquin-Sacramento in California, the

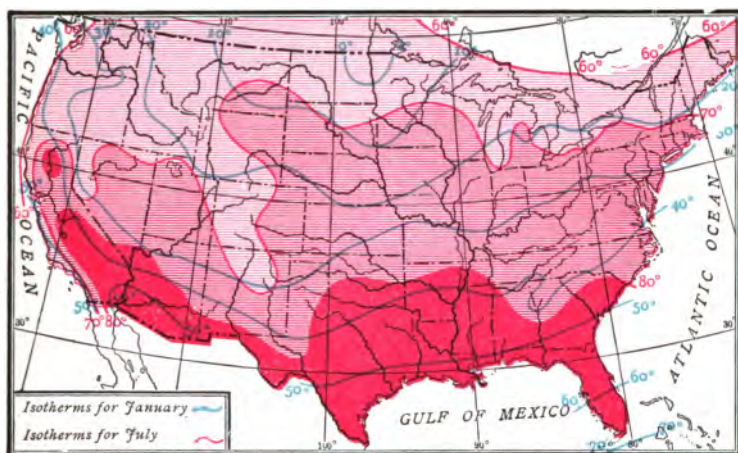


FIG. 56. *Temperature belts in the United States for July and January.*

Willamette in Oregon, and the valley surrounding Puget Sound. Finally, beyond these valleys are the Coast Ranges, which descend abruptly to the Pacific, leaving little room for a coastal plain at their base.

Taken as a whole, the Cordilleran Highland is broken by no water way, and its lowest pass is about a mile above sea level. It consequently opposes immeasurably greater obstacles to commerce than do the Appalachians.

**128. The Climate of Temperate North America.** North America is broadest in the Temperate and narrowest in the

Tropical zone. Nearly all of it thus has a temperate climate suitable for the white race.

Moreover, temperate North America, though divided by the accident of history between Canada and the United States, is singularly well fitted by nature to be the home of one great people; for, more than any other continent, it is a geographic unit. In general, east and west mountain ranges are temperature barriers, while north and south ranges which stand across the paths of the prevailing winds, are rainfall barriers. Owing to the north-and-south trend of the mountains in North America, there is no abrupt change in temperature anywhere between the Gulf of Mexico and Hudson Bay. The United States never could have come into existence if the Rocky Mountains ran east and west, bearing tropical jungles on their southern, and frigid deserts on their northern, slopes like the *Himálayas*.

From east to west, however, the temperature changes are more abrupt. The Atlantic slope, especially in New England and eastern Canada, being exposed to winds both from the land and the sea, has a very variable climate; the great interior plain is subject to extremes of heat and cold like Siberia and Russia; while the Pacific coast, where westerly winds and ocean currents prevail, has a mild, even climate like western Europe. (Fig. 56.)

The rainfall likewise varies from east to west, being heavy on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, lighter in the interior (which depends largely on the Gulf of Mexico and the Great Lakes for moisture), and heavy again on the northern Pacific slope. Between the rooth meridian and the Sierra Nevada-Cascade Range, the rainfall is in most parts insufficient for the type of agriculture found in humid regions. The continent thus has, as the French say, "the defects of its qualities;" since the north-and-south trend of the mountains, which tends to equalize the temperature over wide areas, at the same time checks the moisture-laden west winds and dooms half of the continent to a scanty rainfall. (Fig. 57.)

**129. The American People.** Providence winnowed from four nations the seed wherewith to plant America. This was the faith of our fathers; and certain it is that the families driven to America in colonial times by religious and political strife at home, were of exceptional character and intelligence. Some of the early English colonists indeed sought sudden riches as eagerly as the Spaniards had done; but being forced to till the soil in the absence of gold and of furs sufficient to maintain them, they founded a stable agricultural society.

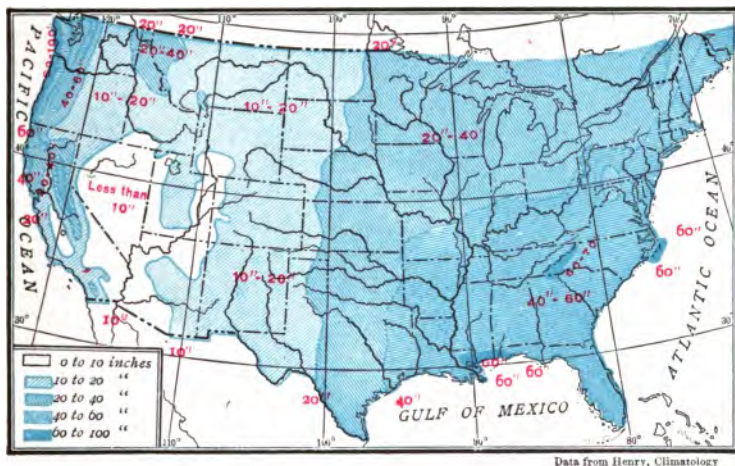


FIG. 57. *Mean annual rainfall in the United States.*

The English settlers, occupying rich farming districts, naturally increased rapidly in numbers and resources. This was the decisive fact in the long duel with France for North America.

The practice of agriculture also tended to preserve the race integrity of the English, for the hunting Indians could not be made into farm hands, nor could they long remain friends with those who, to make farms, cut down the forests and drove away the game. This hostility checked intermarriage and warded off from the English colonies the fate of Spanish America. Finally, through immigration subsequent to the



Revolution, all the strong races of Europe, especially of northern and western Europe have helped to build the American nation.

The present distribution of population in the United States (Fig. 58) illustrates in a striking manner how largely man is controlled by nature. (Figs. 54 and 57.)

**130. Adaptation to Environment.** There has been much loose thinking and writing about the "conquest of nature," "triumphing over nature," and so forth. The fact is that man can make use of natural forces, such as steam or elec-

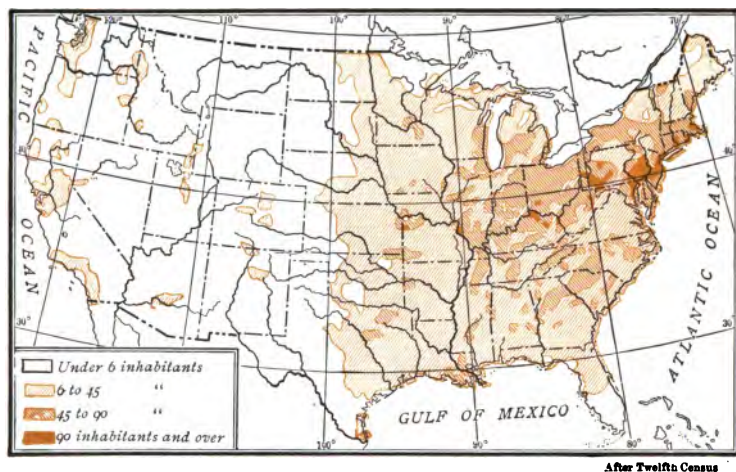


FIG. 58. *The density of population per square mile.*

tricity, only on one condition—that of implicit obedience to natural laws. In the words of Lord Bacon, "Nature is conquered only by obeying her." In like manner he can prosper in any part of the world only by adapting his mode of life to the resources which nature places at his disposal. Nowhere is this dependence on natural environment more striking than in the early history of the United States.

The first colonists were saved from actual starvation, until their European grains became acclimated, only by planting maize, which they obtained from the Indians. Their method

of cultivation, it may be added, was not much more elaborate than that of the Indian squaws, who used to make a hole in the ground with a piece of wood hardened in the fire, drop in the seed, and scrape the dirt over it with their toes.

Maize, indeed, growing readily in the forest clearings made by deadening the trees, and maturing in little over three months, certainly hastened by generations, and perhaps by centuries, the occupation of America by the white race. Moreover, it remained the chief breadstuff in the United States until far into the nineteenth century.

**131. Northern and Southern Types of Agriculture.** In the northern colonies men sought in vain for crops which could be sold abroad, since there was at that time no demand in Europe for grain. They were consequently forced to adopt a self-sufficing type of agriculture, aiming merely to supply their own wants. This self-sufficing agriculture produced a system of small farms worked by their owners, and consequently a democratic type of society. It moreover spread westward as the frontier advanced, and dominated the North until the railway, the reaper, and the growth of manufacturing cities in the East and in Europe made possible the cultivation of wheat for the market.

In Virginia and the more southern colonies, on the other hand, the soil and climate permitted the growth of staple crops—tobacco, rice, indigo, sugar cane, cotton—for which there was a good market abroad. The settlers consequently developed a commercial type of agriculture, demanding abundance of cheap labor. This demand was met at first by the importation of contract labor (indentured white servants), and later of African slaves. Thus arose a distinct type of industry and of society which dominated the South and played a leading role in our national history down to the Civil War.

It was this difference in natural environment (though less pronounced here than in most continents), which, by favoring different crops and different systems of farming, made the



New Englander and the Virginian, though of the same race and speech, so very unlike. The Civil War, indeed, was rooted in the very soil and climate of the continent.

**132. The Early Importance of Water Ways.** As the colonists came from over sea, they naturally settled first around sheltered bays or estuaries; and as their numbers increased the newcomers pushed inland along the navigable rivers. For more than a century practically all travel and transportation in America were by water.

The French, indeed, having access by the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes to the interior of the continent, and being able by short portages<sup>1</sup> over the water-parting to launch their canoes again on streams flowing southward, continued to make almost exclusive use of the water ways until their conquest by the English (1763).

**133. The First Overland Trails.** At the head of navigation on the rivers flowing to the Atlantic, the English were forced to abandon water transportation and strike into the mighty forest which then clothed the Appalachians. In so doing they followed Indian trails, which were in turn frequently based on buffalo "traces;" for the runways of wild animals commonly form the first paths through the wilderness. These paths, moreover, are chosen with singular sagacity, following the valleys in the mountains but the divides in plateaus or plains, for which reason they often serve the later needs of civilization.

<sup>1</sup>The portages of historic importance leading south from the St. Lawrence system (aside from those in New England) were chiefly the following: (1) The "Grand Pass" from Lake Champlain to the Hudson—a route trodden by many armies and sown with battlefields. (2) The Oneida Carrying Place, from the Mohawk to the headwaters of the Oswego, where Rome, N. Y., now stands. (3) From Lake Erie, at Erie, Pa., to the headwaters of the Ohio. (4) From the Cuyahoga River to the Muskingum, where Akron, Ohio, is located. (5) From the Miami to the Wabash, marked by Fort Wayne, Ind. (6) From the St. Joseph to the Kankakee, near South Bend, Ind. (7) From the Chicago River to the Illinois, at Chicago. (8) From the Fox River to the Wisconsin. It is interesting and significant how many of these portages have furnished the sites for cities and the routes for canals. (See Hulbert, *Historic Highways*, vol. 7.)

Thus Nemacolin's Path, which Washington followed on his mission to the French (1754), was the forerunner of Braddock's Trail (1755), the National Road, and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. The Kittanning Path up the Juniata to the Allegheny furnished the route of Forbes's Trail (1758) and of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Warrior's Path from the Shenandoah Valley through Cumberland Gap to the Falls of the Ohio became Boone's Wilderness Road (1769) over which Kentucky was settled. After the Revolution had broken the power of the Six Nations, the Iroquois trail from Albany



FIG. 59. *Early highways to the West.*

to Lake Erie developed into the Great Genesee Road, which is followed in a general way by the Erie Canal and the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad. These four were the first and greatest overland routes into the interior of the continent. (Fig. 59.)

The buffalo and the Indian thus blazed the way for the locomotive. This occurred not only through the Appalachians, but later through the Rockies and on to the Pacific.

**134. The Bonds of Union.** It was the Roman roads that bound together the Roman Empire. Only good facilities for

transportation can unite remote sections in a community of interests and of feeling. It was therefore evident, even before the close of the American Revolution, that the future of the country depended on overcoming the barrier of the Appalachians.

In spite of bridle paths and even rough wagon roads, the mountains still remained virtually impassable to commerce; the western country was consequently dependent on the Mississippi, and its mouth was held by a foreign power. In despair some men even intrigued for a transfer of the region to Spain or France. It was this situation that forced the Government, during Jefferson's administration, to purchase Louisiana (1803), and later to construct the National Road from the Potomac to the Ohio (1818).

The National Road, being broad, hard, and of easy grade, and the Erie Canal, built (1825) by the state of New York to connect the Hudson with the Great Lakes through the Mohawk Gap, thus became at once life-giving arteries of commerce and therefore the strongest bonds of union between the East and the West.

The work of unification was powerfully furthered by the steamboat (after 1811), which made upstream navigation possible; and was completed between the Atlantic seaboard and the interior by the railroad. The first continuous line of rails, beginning at tidewater on the Atlantic, reached Buffalo in 1842, the upper Ohio in 1851, Chicago in 1852, the Mississippi at Rock Island in 1854, the Missouri at St. Joseph in 1859, and the Pacific at San Francisco in 1869. Meantime the first railway from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes had been opened in 1859. The driving of the last spike on the Union Pacific thus signalized the commercial conquest of the continent.

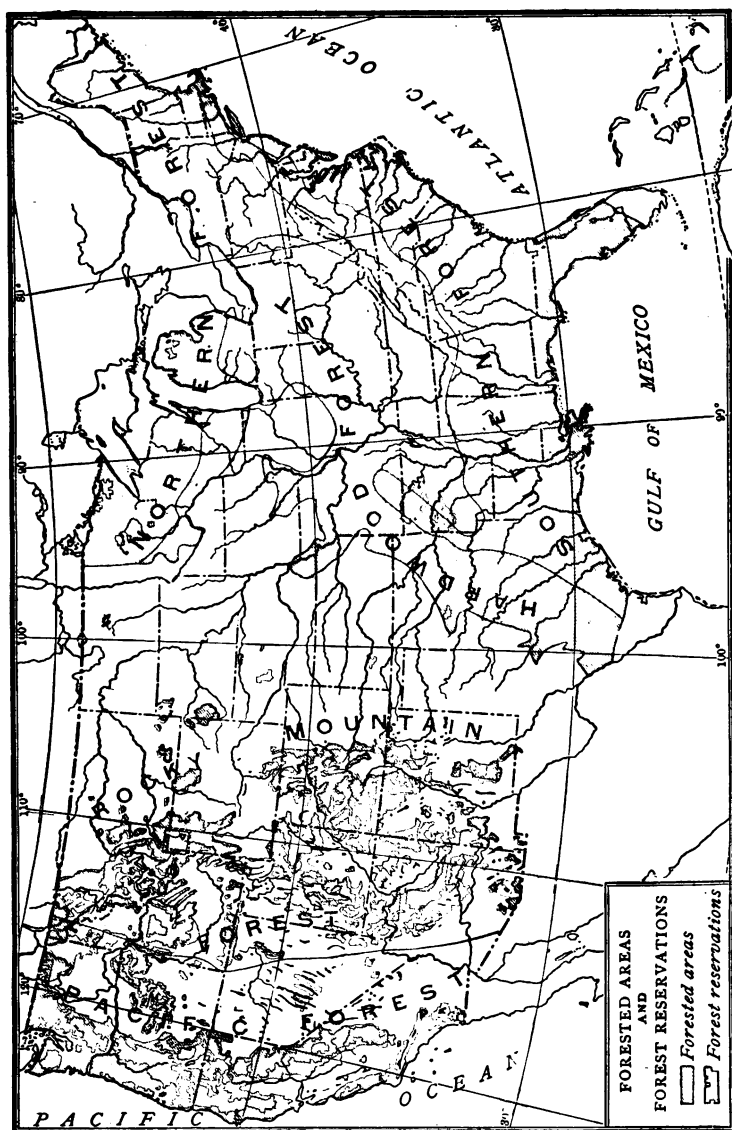


FIG. 60. Areas originally wooded and National Forest Reserves.







FIG. 62 Inland water ways of the United States.

## *X—THE NORTH ATLANTIC SECTION*

**135. Climate and Surface of the North Atlantic Section.** It was not without reason that the people of New England became rugged and masterful. On such a "stern and rock-bound coast" there was no place for weaklings.

New England is an ancient mountain region worn down to the very roots by long-continued exposure to the elements, and submerged until the sea in places breaks almost against the foot of the mountains. The coast is, therefore, very irregular and the lowlands are small. The climate is, moreover, harsh—perhaps in part on account of the Labrador current which hugs the shore as far as Cape Cod.

South of the Hudson, where the land has sunk comparatively little, the lowlands are larger than in New England, but the coastline is more regular and devoid of good harbors, except for Delaware and Chesapeake bays. (Fig. 61.) The climate from Cape Cod south, and also in western New York along the Great Lakes, is milder and more equable than in northern New England.

**136. The Soils of the North Atlantic Section.** Most of the region north of Philadelphia and the Ohio River was buried, some thousands of years ago, beneath an ice sheet so thick that it overrode the highest mountains. This huge glacier (Fig. 63) well called "a gigantic file, plow, stone-crusher, and dump cart all in one," moving slowly down from Labrador, changed the whole face of the country. It filled old river valleys in some places and scraped deep hollows in others, thereby disorganizing the drainage, causing rapids and falls in many rivers, and creating innumerable lakes. This was the origin even of the Great Lakes. Moreover, it stripped the uplands of their original soil and spread over the country a deep layer of rock waste called drift, varying from boulders the size of a house to finely pulverized "rock flour."



For these reasons hardly a third of New England, where the glacial action was most severe, is fit for the plow. But the Middle States, from the Hudson to the Potomac, having more level surface and fewer boulders, besides a milder climate, are better adapted for modern commercial agriculture.

**137. Early Industries of the North Atlantic Section.** Before the Revolution, the North Atlantic section (Fig. 64), like all the colonies, was essentially agricultural. The increase of population, however, early drove settlers north and west into the uplands, where the soil quickly became exhausted.

In these circumstances, the combination of timber and harbors was too plain a mandate from nature to be disregarded.

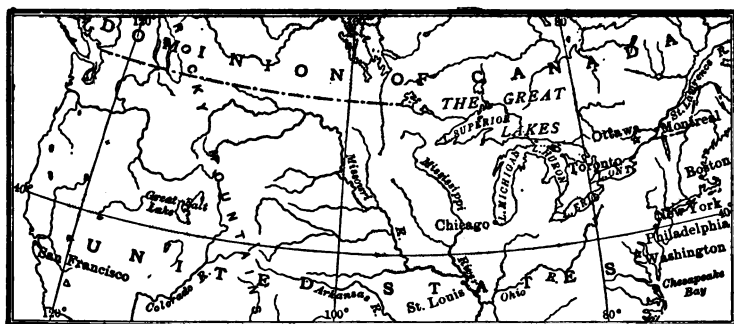
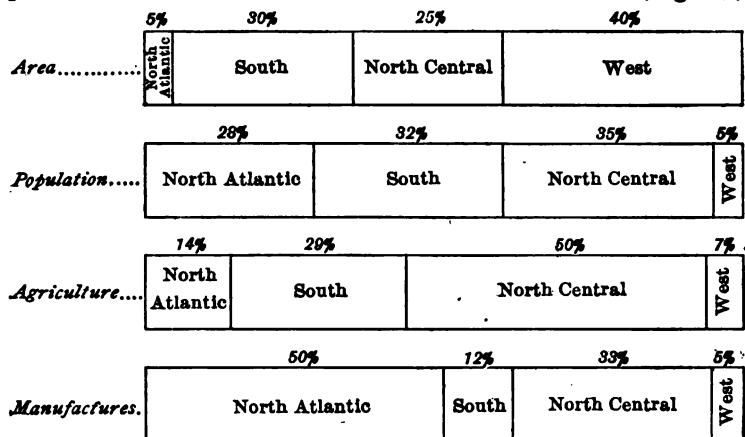


FIG. 63. *Glacial soils in the United States.*

The broad "continental shelf," or fringe of land but slightly submerged beneath the sea and washed by the cold Labrador current, also afforded unexcelled fishing grounds, and fish were a commodity always in demand abroad. Ship building and fishing consequently soon became important industries, and in time New England even began to compete with England for carrying trade upon the ocean.

The War of 1812, together with the Embargo Act, destroyed fleets and built factories. In other words, capital and labor were thereby diverted from commerce to manufactures.

As a result of the development of manufactures since 1812, the North Atlantic section, with only one-twentieth of the area, has more than one-fourth of the population, and produces half the manufactures of the United States. (Fig. 64.)



Data from Twelfth Census

FIG. 64. *Continental United States by sections. Totals: area (not including Alaska) 3,025,600 square miles; population, 75,994, 575; farm products 4,717 million dollars; manufactures 13,010 million dollars. For fisheries, forests, and mineral products, see Figs. 131, 132, and 139.*

**138. Fisheries of the North Atlantic Section.** On rocky coasts with cold climates, the "harvest of the sea" is often richer than the harvest of the land. Parts of New England, like Norway, illustrate this principle.

The deep-sea fishery (Fig. 65) in New England yields chiefly cod and haddock; the inshore fishery, herring and mackerel. All these are usually salted or smoked for market, though on the Maine coast young herring are canned in oil like sardines. Cod-liver oil is an important medicinal food. Shad are also taken in the Middle States as they ascend the rivers. In addition, menhaden are extensively caught for use as fertilizers on worn-out soils. Other important sea products are lobsters, crabs, clams, and, in sheltered waters

from Cape Cod south, oysters. The most productive oyster beds are in Long Island Sound and Chesapeake Bay. By far the most important fishery products of this section are the cod and oyster.



FIG. 65. *Fishing banks of the North Atlantic adjacent to North America.*

The principal fishing ports are Gloucester and Boston, while the principal oyster port is Baltimore.

**139. Forest Products of the North Atlantic Section.** Lumbering still remains an important industry in northern New England, the Adirondacks, and the Alleghenies. However, white pine has become extremely scarce, the species of present commercial value being chiefly spruce and hemlock.

The principal lumbering state in the North Atlantic section is Pennsylvania. The leading lumber markets are Williamsport and Elmira on the Susquehanna, Burlington on Lake Champlain, and Bangor at the head of navigation on the Penobscot.

Paper, for which the modern newspaper has created an enormous demand, is made chiefly of wood pulp. The pulp mills are usually located where rivers at once deliver the timber and furnish power; for example, at Watertown near the foot of the Adirondacks. The mills of Holyoke, Mass., however,

which have the largest output of any in America, being adjacent to large centers of population, mostly use linen rags for the best quality of paper.

**140. Farming in the North Atlantic Section.** After the opening of the Erie Canal, and especially after the railways had reached the Mississippi Valley, the old self-sufficing type of agriculture had to be abandoned in the East. The rocky hillsides and the thin glacial soils of New England could not compete with the richer soils of the prairies in growing wheat, nor with the ranches of Texas in raising cattle. The level districts of the Middle States, where farm machinery can be used, do indeed produce some wheat, and there is a considerable crop of rye, of oats, and of buckwheat. But agriculture is in the main concerned with products other than grain, even in the Genesee Valley, which was for almost a generation (1825-1850) the granary of the country.

By reason of the moist climate, the steep slopes in the hilly districts, and the excellent markets in the cities, the dairy industry, which began about 1830 in central New York, is

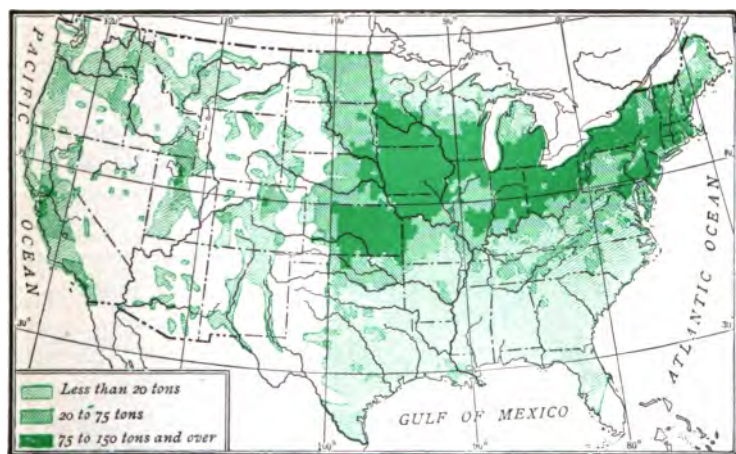


FIG. 66. Hay per square mile.

now by far the most important branch of agriculture. Near through lines of railway, milk is sent to market by special trains; in other districts it is made into butter, cheese, or condensed milk. New York state is the center of cheese manufacture in the United States.

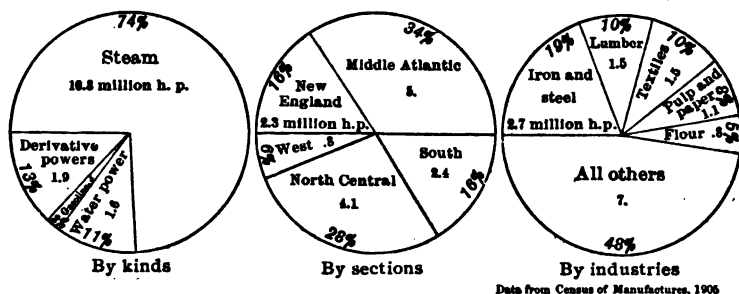
Owing to the prevalence of dairying, hay is on the whole the leading crop. (Fig. 66.) Potatoes are also commonly grown in the north, especially in Maine and New York, being suited to a cool, moist climate and doing well even on rather poor soil. Special crops, requiring more intensive cultivation, are hops, beans, cabbage, onions, and sugar beets in western New York, fruit (and fruit trees) along the Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay, tobacco in the Connecticut Valley and along the sheltered eastern foot of the mountains from Maryland to central New York. In the lowlands near the great cities, garden "truck" or vegetables are extensively grown, to some extent under glass and with artificial heat. This is commercially possible in competition with the South, because the freight rates are high on such perishable products if shipped from a distance, and also because the returns per acre will pay even on high-priced land.

**141. Industries Using Farm Products.** North of the early-vegetable belt, the canning of fruit, vegetables, and oysters is a large industry, especially at Baltimore and at Wilmington, Del. Flour milling is important at Buffalo and Rochester and the manufacture of cornstarch at Oswego, all having water power and water transportation from the West. Meat packing is carried on where land and water transportation meet, and live stock from the West must consequently be unloaded, as at all the leading seaports from Boston to Baltimore.

Industries employing in whole or in part imported materials naturally flourish near tidewater. Such are the roasting and grinding of coffee and spices at New York, likewise tobacco manufactures and the refining of sugar in all the great seaports. The largest sugar refineries are in Brooklyn, now part of Greater New York.

The tobacco industry is also important in cities near the tobacco district, as Lancaster and York, Pa., and Binghamton, N. Y.

**142. Why Manufactures Flourish in the North Atlantic Section.** In this age of machinery the dominant factor is mechanical power. (Fig. 67.) Where the waterfalls and coal fields are, there the factories prosper and multiply.



Data from Census of Manufactures, 1905

FIG. 67. *Mechanical power used in manufactures in the United States. Total at census of 1905, 14.6 million horse power. Derivative powers include electricity, and compressed air, derived from water power, steam, and gas engines.*

The rivers of New England and New York descend rapidly from considerable elevations, forming many waterfalls and rapids. Their flow is, moreover, quite constant; for the numerous lakes left by the great glacier serve as natural reservoirs, and the rainfall is well distributed throughout the year. For these reasons the rivers furnish excellent water power. At the Twelfth Census over a third (35 per cent) of all the power employed in New England was derived from water—a far larger proportion than in any other section. And the enormous power of Niagara (Figs. 68 and 69), now beginning to be used for the generation of electricity, may yet create in that vicinity the greatest manufacturing center of the continent.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Water power is also furnished in New York by other rivers flowing to Lake Ontario, as at Rochester, Auburn, Oswego, and Watertown; by streams descending from the Allegheny Plateau, as at Jamestown, Elmira, and Binghamton; and by the upper Hudson and its tributaries, as at Troy, Cohoes, and Glens Falls.

South of the Hudson there is a "Fall Line" at the inner edge of the Coastal Plain, where the ocean formerly beat against the

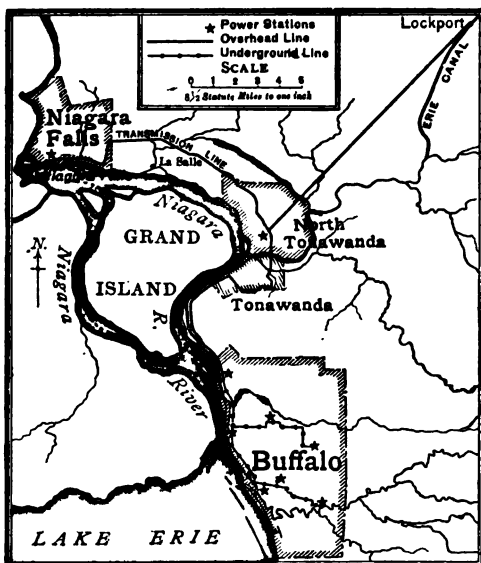


FIG. 68. Long distance transmission of electric power from Niagara Falls.

land. These falls, affording power and usually forming the head of navigation, are marked by a row of important cities from New Jersey to Alabama. (Fig. 54.)

The Middle Atlantic region, moreover, abounds in underground treasures, especially coal and iron.

After the War of 1812, these mineral resources became the foundation of a great manufacturing

industry and an immense commerce south of the Hudson, as water power did in New England.

#### 143. Leather Manufactures in the North Atlantic Section.

The oak and hemlock forests of New England, furnishing tanbark, early led to a tanning industry. This is still carried on at Woburn and Salem but, in the main, the tanning industry has followed the retreating forests to the west and south. To stay its further migration, chrome tannage is now extensively used at Philadelphia, especially for shoe uppers. Other important tanning centers are Wilmington, Del., and Newark, N. J.

The manufacture of shoes by hand was established at Lynn as early as 1750, by John Adams Dagyr, a Welsh shoemaker. Until a recent date (about 1860), shoes continued to be made by hand. The industry consequently had a chance to take

root in districts remote from water power, with the result that shoe factories in New England now use chiefly steam.

At the Twelfth Census, Brockton, Lynn, and Haverhill, all in Massachusetts, had by far the largest output of shoes. North Adams, Mass., was also important. In the Middle States, Rochester held first rank.

Leather gloves are made chiefly at Gloversville and Johnstown, N. Y., where deer skins from the Adirondacks are said to have been the original materials used.

#### 144. Textile Manufactures in the North Atlantic Section.

Cotton and woolen mills, unlike shoe factories, were originally established on rivers furnishing water power; notably at Lewiston, Me.; Manchester, N. H.; Fall River, Fitchburg, Lawrence, Lowell, and Taunton, Mass.; Pawtucket and Woonsocket, R. I.

Steam has also built up a large textile industry in tide-water cities, where coal and raw materials can be cheaply obtained; for example, at New Bedford, Mass., Warwick and



Courtesy of the Reverend Philip W. Mosher

FIG. 69. *Water power at Niagara. Note the huge pipes leading to the power house at foot of bluff.*



Providence, R. I., and Philadelphia. Fall River, having both water power and ocean transportation, is the greatest cotton city in America, if not in the world.

In carpets and woolen goods, the Philadelphia district, including the adjacent cities of Norristown, Pa., and Camden, N. J., is preëminent.<sup>1</sup> Another important district for woollens, especially knit goods, extends through central New York, including Cohoes at the falls of the Mohawk, Amsterdam, and Utica. This district profited much originally from the Erie Canal which brought wool from Ohio, especially after the opening of the canal connecting the Ohio with Lake Erie (1832).

Silk manufactures center at Paterson, N. J., the "Lyons of America," at the falls of the Passaic River and adjacent to New York, where much raw silk is imported. The silk industry has, however, spread to the neighboring cities of West Hoboken, Jersey City, and New York, and even throughout eastern Pennsylvania as far as Philadelphia.

The dyeing of textiles has become a separate industry, notably at Passaic, N. J.

Rubber goods, being made of imported material, are manufactured chiefly in tidewater cities, notably New York and adjacent cities, also Boston and Chelsea, Mass.

Ready-made clothing is turned out wherever there is cheap labor and a large market; that is, in all great cities, especially New York. Shirts, collars, and cuffs, however, are largely made at Troy; hats at Danbury, Conn., and at Orange and Newark, N. J. These curious localizations of industries are due in the main to an early start, the consequent advantage of business experience, and the development of a class of skilled workmen. (§ 70.)

**145. Mineral Industries of New England.** New England lacks mineral resources of large commercial importance other than building stone. Granite, the most durable stone, is

<sup>1</sup>For maps and data concerning the chief industrial districts in the United States, without regard to state lines, see *Census Bulletin*, 101.

worked in many places, especially where it is accessible to water transportation, as at Quincy, Mass. Marble, formed from limestone by heat and pressure during the upheaval of the mountains, is quarried mainly near Rutland and Proctor, Vt.

There is also some iron ore in New England, and blast furnaces, burning charcoal, were erected in Massachusetts as early as 1702. This early iron industry in New England has left an offshoot in the manufacture of light metal wares needing little raw material but much skilled labor; for the more largely labor enters into the cost of any product, the less its localization depends on nearness to raw materials. Machine tools, for example, are made extensively at Nashua, N. H., and Worcester, Mass.; bicycles at Hartford, firearms at New Haven and Springfield, fixed ammunition at Bridgeport, clocks and brassware at Waterbury, hardware at New Britain, plated ware at Meriden, watches at Waltham, jewelry at Providence. Moreover, the shipbuilding industry, now employing iron and steel, is carried on at Bath, Me., Quincy, Mass., and New London, Conn.

New England, lacking coal and therefore unable to compete in the smelting of iron, owes her continued success in metal manufactures solely to experience and skill. It is a clear case of the triumph of brains.

**146. Mineral Fuels in the Middle States.** The largest cities of the Middle States—New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburg—owe their locations indeed to water transportation, but their phenomenal growth largely to easily-accessible coal fields (Fig. 70), which have furnished the mechanical power for manufactures.

Several valleys around Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, and Pottsville contain practically all the anthracite coal<sup>1</sup> in the United States. This small district (less than 500 square miles) is therefore of extraordinary commercial importance. (Fig. 70.)

<sup>1</sup>Value at mine in 1907, 163 million dollars, against 451 million for all the rest of the coal produced in the United States.

Along the western flank of the Allegheny Plateau lies a great field of natural gas, petroleum, and soft coal. (Figs. 70 and 71.) One seam of this coal, the Pittsburgh, is, in places, sixteen feet thick. This seam made Pittsburgh a great manufacturing city. The petroleum from around Bradford, Oil City, and Olean is mostly piped to tidewater<sup>1</sup> and there refined, mainly at Philadelphia and at Bayonne, N. J. The coal for iron smelting is largely coked in a wilderness of ovens around Connellsville, situated on the best field of coking coal in America.

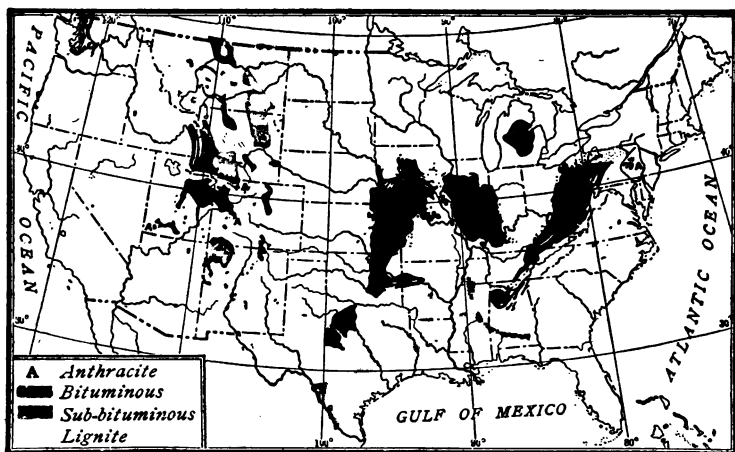


FIG. 70. Coal fields of the United States.

**147. The Iron Industry of the Middle States.** Iron furnaces, using charcoal, were early erected in New Jersey (1710) and Pennsylvania (1716); but the iron industry attained real importance only after the War of 1812. Charcoal later (about 1840) gave way to anthracite as fuel; this has in turn been superseded (since 1875) by coke, even in the anthracite district. In each case the change occurred because the new fuel proved the cheaper.

<sup>1</sup>The first pipe line was built in 1865; the first line to tidewater in 1880. By 1902 there were 57,800 miles of pipe lines (Table 6), moving annually some 10,000,000 tons of petroleum an average distance of 380 miles. (Twelfth Census.)

Since coke has generally supplanted anthracite for smelting purposes, and the iron ores of the Middle States have proved

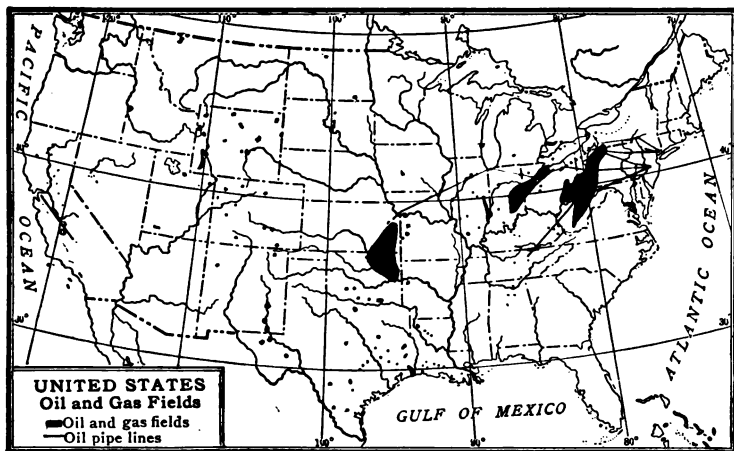


FIG. 71. Oil and gas fields of the United States.

less profitable than the richer and more easily-mined ores of the Superior ranges, the center of the iron industry has crossed the mountains. It is now located on the upper Ohio, where Connellsville coke meets the Lake Superior iron ore landed at the Lake Erie ports. The Pittsburgh district (Fig. 72),



FIG. 72. Steel works at Pittsburgh.

including Allegheny,<sup>1</sup> McKeesport, Newcastle, Homestead, Johnstown, Pa., Wheeling, W. Va., and Youngstown, Ohio, leads not only in blast furnaces but also in the production of steel rails and heavy steel goods of every description, which can be made more cheaply in the vicinity of the blast furnaces. Erie, one of the iron-ore ports, has also a considerable iron industry; and Altoona has the largest output of railway rolling stock in the country.

Important iron and steel works are also found in Harrisburg, Reading, Trenton, Scranton, Allentown, Easton, South Bethlehem, and other cities close by the anthracite district. Moreover, the Philadelphia district, including Chester, Pa., has immense ship yards and locomotive works. The Delaware River is indeed the American Clyde—that is, the center of American shipbuilding. Sparrow Point, Baltimore, also has blast furnaces and steel mills fed with imported ores, largely from Cuba. Wilmington, Del., specializes, like Altoona, in steam cars.

A third iron-working district lies along the Hudson and in central New York, where iron ores from the Adirondacks were originally employed. Albany and Schenectady now manufacture respectively cars and locomotives, while Auburn and Syracuse are the principal eastern seats of the agricultural implement industry.

**148. Other Mineral Industries of the Middle States.** Another important metal is aluminum, which is used for many purposes in place of brass. Being lighter and an excellent conductor of electricity, aluminum is also beginning to take the place to an increased extent of copper for long-distance electrical transmission—for example, in the Colgate power plant. It is smelted in electric furnaces, some of which are supplied with power by Niagara.

Building stone is even more extensively quarried in the Middle States than in New England. Pennsylvania holds first place in slate, sandstone, and limestone.

<sup>1</sup>United with Pittsburg in 1906.

For structural purposes the clays of the Coastal Plain from New York to Philadelphia are also of prime importance, giving rise to a large manufacture of brick, terra-cotta, drain pipes, and pottery. Trenton, on the Fall Line, had at the Twelfth Census the largest production of china ware, porcelain, and other fine pottery in the United States. Much of the clay for the Trenton potteries, however, is brought from a distance, some even from England. This is possible because clay comes very cheaply as ballast.

The center of glass manufacture, on the other hand, is Pittsburg, where natural gas serves as fuel. The principal ingredient in glass, pure quartz sand, is widely distributed.

The principal binding substances are mortar and cement. Mortar is compounded of sand and lime; cement, of clay and lime. Portland cement (Fig. 73) is now so extensively

56%	29%	11%	4%
North Atlantic 27 million barrels	North Central 14	West 5	South 2

Data from Mineral Resources, 1907

FIG. 73. *Portland cement in the United States. Total in 1907, 4.8 million barrels.*

manufactured in the United States, largely in the Lehigh and Hudson valleys, that imports have almost ceased.

A belt of rock salt and gypsum deposits extends through central New York, which sometimes leads and sometimes ranks next to Michigan, in the output of salt. The salt wells near Syracuse have also given rise to important chemical industries, especially the manufacture of soda. The gypsum serves as a fertilizer, and when burned (plaster of Paris) it is used for wall plaster and statuary.

**149. Seaports of New England.** New England is by reason of its broken coast line the most maritime section of the country, but it labors under serious handicaps in commerce. In the first place, its ports lie farther from the interior of the continent than do New York or Baltimore. Again, it is cut off from the West by the Berkshire Hills, which compel

a climb of a thousand feet. Finally, the trend of the valleys in New England is toward the St. Lawrence; but that natural route to the interior of the continent is largely closed to commerce by the Canadian boundary. All of these natural disadvantages, however, are in a measure offset by the fact that the railways make the same rate to Boston as to New York, on shipments from the West for export to other countries.



FIG. 74. *Boston Harbor showing bars and islands which protect it and railways converging on harbor.*

Boston, the principal seaport (Fig. 74) of New England, is the greatest wool and leather market in the United States, owing to the large development of textile and leather manufactures in New England. Its exports, which fall considerably short of its imports in value, are principally foodstuffs from the West, which come East through either the

St. Lawrence or the Mohawk valleys. As a business center Boston includes Brookline, Cambridge and other outlying suburbs, which in effect double its population.

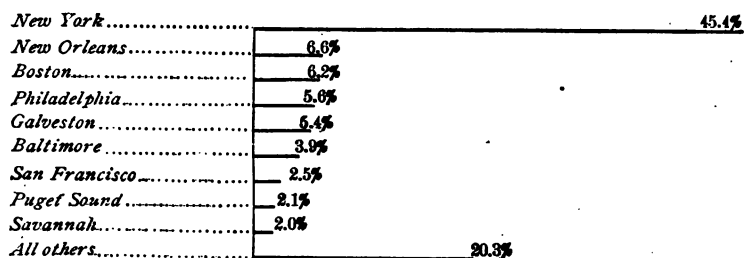
An eight-mile, sea-level ship canal has been undertaken between Cape Cod Bay and Buzzards Bay, to avoid the long and dangerous route around Cape Cod and to give an inside passage between Boston and New York.

Portland, the second port of New England, lies at the point of the Maine coast where the Atlantic comes nearest to

Montreal. It is thus the natural outlet of Montreal, that is, of nearly all Canada, whenever the St. Lawrence is icebound. The completion of the bridge at Quebec would naturally bring Portland into equally close relations with the region north of the St. Lawrence and east of Montreal did not the contract of the Canadian government with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway provide that Canadian ports—St. John, N. B., or Halifax, N. S.—must be favored.

**150. Seaports of the Middle States.** Philadelphia, at the head of deep water on the Delaware, was the metropolis of the country during the Revolution. The mountains, presenting a barrier toward the west, cost it this preëminence. Moreover, the river is sometimes icebound, which does not happen at New York on account of the tidal currents through East River. For these reasons the largest interests of Philadelphia are manufacturing rather than commercial, though it ranks as one of the great ports of the United States. (Fig. 75.) It is the point where the Pennsylvania railway system, extending to Pittsburg and the West, reaches tide-water. (Fig. 12.)

Baltimore, built on the Fall Line, is likewise a great manufacturing city, and the seaport nearest to the upper Ohio Valley by way of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. It has also been chosen as the outlet of the Gould railway system which



Data from Review of Foreign Commerce, 1908

FIG. 75. *Percentage of foreign commerce of United States handled by leading seaports.*



extends from Pittsburg to the Far West. Nevertheless, though the distance to the Ohio is shorter, the summit level of the mountains here is higher than farther north.

New York, at the mouth of the Hudson, occupies a site fitted, by reason of a superb harbor (Fig. 76) and unequalled



FIG. 76. *New York Harbor, showing deep water channels, adjacent cities, and converging railways.*

ease of access to the interior, for the metropolis of the continent. Already it is the greatest commercial port in the world, and in population ranks next to London. Its manufactures, including almost every conceivable article, exceed in value those of any other city in the United States; and yet New York's largest interests are commercial, rather than manufacturing. It handles nearly half of our total foreign commerce, and largely for this reason it is the financial center of the country. For many business purposes it includes Yonkers up the Hudson and the neighboring cities west of the Hudson—Hoboken, Jersey City, Bayonne, Newark, and Elizabeth. In fact, Hoboken and Jersey City, fronting on New York Bay, contain the terminals of many steamship lines, and several railways from the West.

New York is now connected by several tunnels with the Jersey shore and with Long Island, where some of the railways have acquired large tracts of land for freight terminals.

An extensive subway has also been constructed by the city beneath the business section to facilitate rapid transit. (Fig. 77).

**151. Canals in the Middle States.** Canals were early built up the Delaware, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, and Potomac valleys, and also across the watershed between the Delaware and the Hudson. Their main service has been to carry coal from the mines to tidewater and to New York. At the Census of Water Transportation in 1906, however, these canals had either been abandoned, or had passed under the control of the coal-carrying railroads and were then of little practical importance. (Fig. 62.) Yet several of these canals, especially the Delaware and Raritan, could easily be made serious factors in the coal trade of New York and perhaps also of New England.

New York, unlike Pennsylvania, has retained control of its canals, which connect the Hudson with the waters tributary to the St. Lawrence, along three routes. The Champlain Canal goes by way of Lake Champlain, while the Erie Canal connects with Lake Ontario through the Oswego Canal, and also reaches Lake Erie directly at Buffalo. These canals have been toll free since 1882; and they are to be deepened to

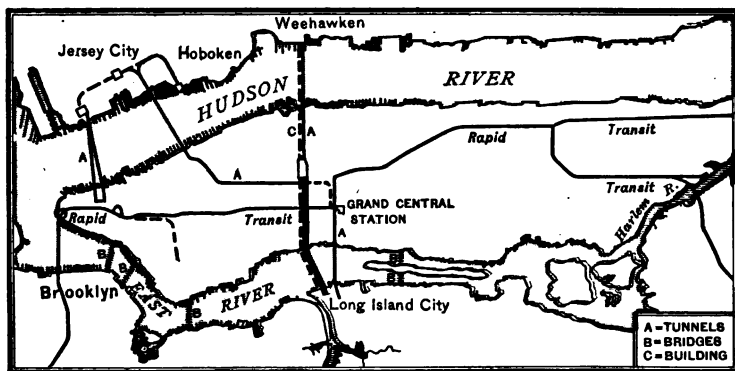


FIG. 77. Subways and tunnels, New York, uniting Long Island, Manhattan, and New Jersey.

twelve feet, at a cost of more than \$100,000,000, so as to admit 1,500-ton barges. This project was undertaken in the hope of meeting the competition of the St. Lawrence route by reducing the cost of transportation between Buffalo and New York to twenty-five cents per ton, or about one-half mill per ton per mile. Finally, a coastwise canal connects Chesapeake and Delaware bays. This canal, providing an inside route for barge traffic, is likely to be replaced at no distant date by a sea-level ship canal. Besides saving distance and time, such a canal would make Philadelphia a port of call on the northern route from Baltimore to Europe.

The traffic of all these canals—even of the Erie Canal—has declined greatly in recent years. The obvious reason is that the canals are too small for modern traffic requirements. Moreover, goods must be transhipped to and from canal boats, while railway cars are hauled through to destination. Again, the railways commonly refuse to “pro-rate” or make joint through rates with canals, thereby cutting them off from through traffic. Further, the railroads control most of the coal mines which would naturally furnish the chief canal tonnage. Finally, the railroads now own most of the canals themselves and, having no interest in enlarging them, have either abandoned them or left them to decay. In these ways, the natural advantages of the Middle States for internal navigation have been largely nullified.

**152. Railway Routes to the West.** The finest harbor in the world would remain unused if backed by desert or by impenetrable mountains. Even with dynamite at their disposal, railways seldom penetrate mountains except along pathways prepared by running water. The rivers of the Middle Atlantic region, despite the decadence of inland navigation, thus open transportation routes into the interior of the continent.

The Potomac forms the route of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, which follows in part the very trail used by Washington; and the Juniata branch of the Susquehanna is closely

followed by the Pennsylvania Railroad. The north and west branches of the Susquehanna, together with the Delaware, serve still other lines.<sup>1</sup>

The Mohawk Gap, however, having a summit elevation at Rome of only 445 feet, against 2,161 on the Pennsylvania and 2,620 on the Baltimore & Ohio, is the dominant factor in the commerce of the continent. It furnished the route of the Erie Canal, which built up along its course a row of cities—Albany, Troy, Cohoes, Schenectady, Utica, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo—unmatched except on the Rhine. The Mohawk Gap, moreover, carries six lines of rails which cross the divide on almost inappreciable grades. The Mohawk Gap thus renders the Hudson the eastern gateway of the continent, New York the Empire State, and New York City the metropolis of the New World.

Buffalo stands at the east, as Chicago and Duluth stand at the west end of the Great Lakes route. Moreover, the railways crossing the mountains strike either the Great Lakes or the upper Ohio. Buffalo and Pittsburg are thus the two gateways of the West.

<sup>1</sup>The Erie, Lehigh, Lackawanna, Ontario & Western.

## *XI—THE SOUTHERN SECTION*

**153. The Southern People.** No other section has so many people of direct Revolutionary ancestry as the region lying south of the Potomac and Ohio rivers. On the Atlantic slope, indeed, the same families have dwelt in the same counties, almost unaffected by immigration, since the days of Washington.

The original planters were largely English gentry, though in South Carolina the people had a dash of Huguenot blood. Louisiana and Florida also brought a considerable French and a lesser Spanish element into the Union. The uplands, on the other hand, were peopled chiefly by Scotch-Irish, who formed the fighting vanguard of civilization.

**154. Surface and Soils of the South.** The South consists in the main of a broad coastal plain, mostly below 400 feet elevation; a hilly or Piedmont' belt above the Fall Line; the Appalachian Highland; and the lower half of the Mississippi Valley. West of the Mississippi, the Appalachian uplift reappears in the Ozarks, an outlying part of the same mountain system.

Three districts show distinct characteristics. Southern Florida is underlaid by coral limestone, and barely reclaimed from the sea. The Mississippi flood plain, thirty to sixty miles wide and about 600 miles long, is swampy indeed but extraordinarily fertile, like the valley of the Ganges. Western Texas and Oklahoma are a part of the Great Plains.

The soil of the Southern lowlands is sandy near the sea, but clayey in the upper part of the coastal plain. This clay belt was the original seat of tobacco and cotton culture and forms, together with the Mississippi flood plain, the famous "black belt" of the South, where negroes largely outnumber the whites. This belt is moreover growing ever blacker as the years go by.

The soil of the Southern uplands, above the Fall Line, was formed on the spot by the decay of the underlying rocks, and consequently varies in character with those rocks. Thus the fertile "red lands" of the Piedmont region and the limestone soils of the Blue Grass districts around Nashville and Lexington contrast sharply with the adjacent sandstone uplands, which yield but scanty returns to the plow.

The Southern uplands, where slavery never flourished as it did in the lowlands, are predominantly, and in parts exclusively, white in population. For this reason, while the Old



■ Cold ■ Cool ■ Intermediate Warm Semi-tropical ■ Tropical

FIG. 78. Life zones in the United States. (After Merriam.)

South before the war was a tidewater South, with outlying plantations only on the richest soils of the upper country, the New South is largely an upland South, dwelling among the hills and mountains.

**155. The Southern Climate.** It was formerly asserted that white men could not work in the Southern fields. The truth is that native whites now grow a large and increasing proportion of the cotton; Northern men raise much of the rice of Louisiana and Texas; and Italians have displaced negroes on many sugar plantations, especially around New Orleans.

In point of fact, the South has nearly every variety of climate. (Fig. 78.) This is clearly shown by the vegetation. Southern Florida is tropical, the Gulf coast semi-tropical, the low plains warm temperate, the upper Piedmont region cool temperate, while the mountains carry into Georgia the climate of New York. Moreover, the storms of winter sweep down from the north unobstructed to the Gulf, damaging fruit, indeed, but giving to the air a tonic quality which is indispensable to maintain the vigor of the white race. (Fig. 56.)

67%	15%	10%	8%
United States 15.8 million gallons	France 3.4	Russia 2.5	All others 1.9

85%	5%	10%
United States 774 million lbs.	Germany 46	All others 83

Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907

FIG 79. Sources of turpentine and rosin entering international commerce in 1906. Totals: turpentine 23.6 million gallons; rosin, 846 million pounds.

The rainfall is abundant, except in the Great Plains region, largely because the heat of the continent in summer causes an indraft of air from the sea. It is, however, less continuous than in southern China. (Fig. 57.)

**156. Forest and Fishery Products of the South.** The South everywhere bore noble forests when the white man came, except in the semi-arid belt toward the west.

There are three distinct belts of timber. On swampy lands along the sea and the rivers, the prevailing species is the cypress; on the sandy parts of the coastal plain it is yellow pine.<sup>1</sup> Both of these make excellent timber. On the Southern uplands, again, is found the largest body of merchantable

<sup>1</sup>A commercial name including several distinct species; chiefly the long-leaved, short-leaved, loblolly and Cuban. Of these the long-leaved is the most important.

hard wood in the United States; chiefly oak and poplar, with some chestnut, cottonwood, gum, hickory, sycamore, and black walnut—the last named mainly in Kentucky.

The South has now displaced the Great Lake states as the chief seat of the lumber industry. The principal market for hard wood is Memphis; while the chief lumber ports are New Orleans on the Gulf, and Newport News on the Atlantic.

The sap of the long-leaved pine when heated or distilled yields turpentine and rosin, used in varnishes. (Fig. 79.) Distillation of the wood itself produces tar; and tar when boiled down becomes pitch. Another product obtained from tar is creosote, employed as a preservative of timber. (Fig. 80.) All of these naval stores are now produced most extensively in Florida and Georgia. The principal market in the world for naval stores is Savannah, though Fernandina has the largest exports.

The Southern waters abound in toothsome fish, but shrimps, oysters, and the huge green sea turtles of Florida are of more commercial importance. Still more valuable is the Florida sponge fishery around Key West, though the production is far from meeting the American demand.

**157. Live Stock in the South.** Hogs are raised for domestic use on most plantations. They are in part of the half-wild "razor-back" variety and forage in the woods for their living.



Courtesy of Forest Service

FIG. 80. *New method of turpentine orcharding which does not destroy the tree, like the deep cuts or "boxes" formerly used.*



Stock raising for market is practically confined to two regions in the South: the Blue Grass districts of Kentucky



Courtesy of A. Clogenson, Dallas

FIG. 81. *The modern type of Texas cattle, feeding on alfalfa.*

and Tennessee, which produce light horses, largely for saddle purposes, and excellent mules; and the semi-arid districts of western Texas and Oklahoma, which furnish pasturage for cattle (Fig. 81) and sheep. The principal market for race horses in the United States is Lexington, Ky. The Texas ranges were formerly occupied by Spanish cattle, with wide spreading horns and able to run like deer; but these have now been largely displaced by improved breeds, such as short-horns. Cattle raising has, however, been limited by the presence of the tick that causes Texas fever in cattle. Owing to the danger of infection there is a quarantine in Northern markets against Southern cattle until late autumn, which seriously reduces profits to the Southern stockman.

Since modern farm machinery has come into use, the slow-going ox, once generally used for farm work, has largely given way to the mule. This animal is stronger and hardier than the horse, and more at home in warm countries.

**158. The Tobacco Belt.** In Virginia, as in New England, the first settlers had to learn from nature how to thrive in the climate and surroundings of the New World.

The first industries of the South were those of the frontier—timber products for export, game, corn planted in the forest clearings, and stock running wild in the forests, for domestic use. This mode of life still prevails in the mountains, which have been happily called a "retarded frontier." There was, however, no market crop until tobacco began to be cultivated. By 1620 tobacco had become, what it remained for two centuries, almost the sole commercial crop of Virginia.

Tobacco (Fig. 82) is still the principal commercial crop of the upper South, north of the lower boundary of Tennessee, and it is widely cultivated in the Gulf states. Tobacco is, in fact, very adaptable as to soil and climate, but each district seems to produce a distinct quality. Thus a light yellow variety, which has brought prosperity to the uplands of North Carolina, owes its peculiar value to a thin, sandy soil long considered worthless. The United States grows and exports more tobacco than any other country. (Fig. 83.)

Hemp, another warm temperate crop, has long been grown in the Kentucky Blue Grass region, especially around Danville. In the United States as a whole this crop has lost



FIG. 82. Yield of tobacco per square mile.

ground, owing to the lack of machinery for separating the fiber from the stalk. It is, however, thought that a successful hemp brake has finally been invented for this purpose.

31%	8%	21%	5%	6%	8%	7%	5%	9%
United States 690 million lbs.	Other American 168	India 450	Dutch East Indies 108	Other Asia 137	Austria- Hungary 187	Russia 162	Turkey 100	All others 196
Crop								
44%	7%	5%	15%	7%	6%	10%		
United States 312 million lbs.	Brazil 45	Cuba 33	Dutch East Indies 108	Other Asia 50	Turkey 88	All others 115		
Exports								

From Year Book of Agriculture, 1907

FIG. 83. Tobacco industry of the world. Total, in 1906 (million lbs.), crop, 2,201; exports of raw tobacco, 702.

159. The Cotton Belt. After the invention of the cotton gin (1793) for separating the seed from the fiber, cotton rapidly forged to the front as the staple Southern crop.<sup>1</sup> Completing what tobacco had begun, it firmly established in

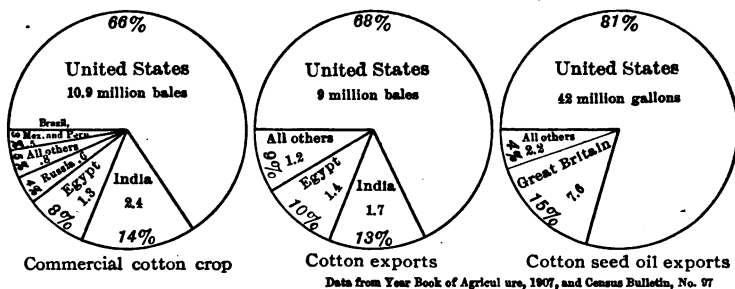


FIG. 84. Raw cotton and cotton-seed oil. Totals in 1907, or latest available year: commercial crop, 1907, 16.5 million bales; exports, 1906, 13.3 million bales; cotton-seed oil exports, 1907, 51.8 million gallons.

the South the plantation system of agriculture, employing slave labor, and created an aristocratic type of society based on the possession of land.

<sup>1</sup>In 1790, before the gin was invented, the total cotton crop of the United States was 2,000,000 pounds; in 1800, it was 40,000,000 pounds; in 1810, 80,000,000 pounds; in 1820, the year of the Missouri Compromise, 160,000,000 pounds.

In the section known to history as the lower South, south of the southern line of Tennessee, cotton is still King, exceeding in value every other Southern crop. (Fig. 85) Cotton also prevails on the lowlands as far north as Virginia. A long summer with abundant moisture is necessary for cotton growing; and nearness to the sea greatly improves the length and fineness of the fiber. Some long-fibered sea island cotton is grown along the Atlantic; but the bulk of the American cotton crop is short fibered, known commercially as "upland." The United States is still by far the largest producer and exporter of raw cotton and cotton-seed products. (Fig. 84.)

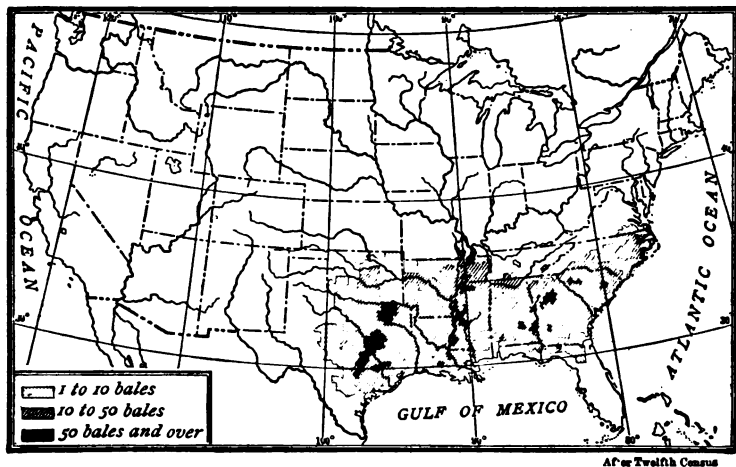


FIG. 85. Yield of cotton per square mile.

The limitation on the acreage that can be farmed in cotton is the necessity of picking cotton by hand: that is, a man can cultivate more cotton than he can pick. If the pneumatic picking machine could be perfected it would consequently work a revolution not less profound than that which followed the introduction of the cotton gin. (Fig. 86.) Ceasing to be indispensable on the farms, the negroes would then more than ever drift to the cities, while the large plantations would be reestablished with modern machinery and white labor.



Courtesy of A. Clogenson, Dallas

a. *By hand*



Copyright, 1906, by A. Clogenson

b. *By machinery. The machine operates by suction and is run by gasoline.*

**FIG. 86. Picking cotton.**

**160. The Rice and Sugar Belt.** On the low, hot coast lands rice and sugar are the prevailing crops.

Rice held a position in South Carolina during colonial times (after 1694) corresponding to tobacco in Virginia; but floods, caused by deforestation in the mountains, have in recent years wrought havoc in the rice fields along the Atlantic.

When rice culture spread to firm well-drained prairies in eastern Texas and southern Louisiana, to which water is raised by steam pumps for irrigating purposes, the self-binding reaper and steam thresher replaced the sickle and flail (1885). (Fig. 87.) Nothing so revolutionary had happened in rice culture in 6,000 years. Using such machinery, one man produces sixty-four times as much rice as a laborer in India.<sup>1</sup> It



Courtesy of Northwestern Millers

FIG. 87. *Finished rice threshing in Louisiana. Compare with Fig. 204.*

is estimated that the land in the lower South which could be easily irrigated (3,000,000 acres) would yield five times our present consumption of rice. The development of the industry is, however, retarded by the extortionate charges of the middlemen. Rice that nets the farmer three cents per pound costs the consumer ten to twelve cents, becoming thus an article of luxury.

For a century (since 1795) sugar has been the mainstay of Louisiana. Though it demands for success in this latitude an immense expenditure of capital, the industry has now

<sup>1</sup>American Economic Association *Proceedings*, 1904.

spread along the whole Gulf and South Atlantic coast. It is a striking illustration of what human energy can accomplish.

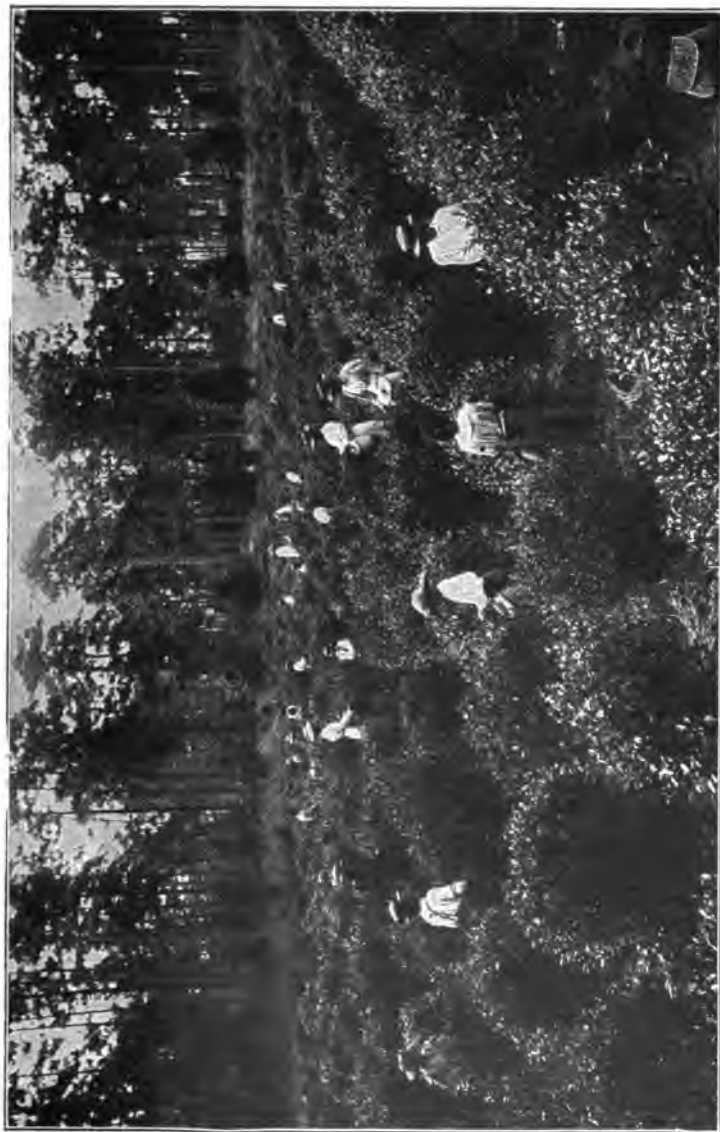
**161. Other Southern Crops.** Throughout the South corn is the principal crop for local consumption, rivaling cotton in acreage. Corn bread and pork are the staple foods of farm laborers. Winter wheat and oats are also grown in the Appalachian uplands, and in the "black waxy" region of central Texas and Oklahoma, where they divide the soil with cotton.

The winter grains have a double advantage in the South, compared with corn; they do not require attention during the season when cotton must be cultivated, and they protect the soil from erosion during the winter. For this reason they are grown to some extent even where their yield is very light.

In many parts of the South, especially in the Atlantic Coastal Plain where the Gulf Stream flows close inshore and the mountains fend off the blasts which blow from the interior in winter, early vegetables and sweet potatoes are largely planted for the northern market. In the Piedmont region and the Ozarks, peaches and other tender fruits are also extensively grown at moderate elevations, especially in Georgia; while along the mountain side runs a pippin (apple) belt, rising from 1,200 feet elevation in Virginia to 3,000 in South Carolina.

That such perishable products can be grown commercially so far from the market is due altogether to special fast trains and special cars, equipped to maintain an even temperature, summer or winter. But the isolated farmer, deciding by guess what to plant, necessarily suffers frequent and heavy losses from overstocking the market; and he is, moreover, always at the mercy of the middlemen. This situation has given rise, in most of the older fruit and trucking districts, to growers' coöperative associations which employ expert agents to oversee the shipment and market the crops.

Other crops of some importance are peanuts, for which Norfolk is the leading market; and pecans, grown especially around San Antonio, Texas. Peanuts are an important



Courtesy of Piedmont Tea Gardens

FIG. 88. *Picking tea at Summerville, S. C.*



source of oil now sold in ton lots as "peanut butter." Nut flours are also coming into use.

Orange culture in northern Florida received a severe setback from the killing frosts of 1895; but around Miami, in the extreme south, not only the orange but also the cocoanut, pineapple, grape fruit, and mango reach maturity.

Successful experiments have been made in the raising of camphor trees in Florida, and of tea (Fig. 88) at Pinehurst, S. C. It is not impossible that the tea industry has a great future on the warm and moist Atlantic slope, which closely reproduces the climatic conditions of southern China.

**162. Mineral Products of the South.** Ancient pits and tunnels overgrown by the forest show that mica was mined in North Carolina by the Mound Builders—whoever they may have been—and the veins are not yet exhausted. The lead deposits of Virginia furnished bullets for both the Continental and Confederate armies; and the gold fields of North Carolina and Georgia had their day of excitement before the rush to California (1849).

On the whole, however, the Atlantic slope is noted for the variety rather than for the value of its mineral products. Those of real commercial importance comprise iron, along the western flank of the Blue Ridge; copper, especially in eastern Tennessee; vast prehistoric-bone beds, yielding phosphate of lime, which extend from Tennessee through the Carolinas into Florida; finally, granite, slate, and marble, the last named being quarried around Tate, Ga., and Knoxville, Tenn. Florida

29%	27%	22%	16%	6%
United States 25.5 million bushels	Argentina and Uruguay 23.7	Russia 19.3	India 14.1	All others 4.9

Data from Mineral Resources, 1907

FIG. 89. *Phosphate-rock production of the world.*  
Total in 1906, 39 million tons.

leads in the production and export of phosphate (Fig. 89); Georgia ranks next to Vermont in the production of marble.

Coal occurs east of the Appalachians only in small beds of late (Triassic) origin; but to the westward it underlies large areas in the Allegheny-Cumberland Plateau, the Ozark region, and the Gulf Plain. With coal are associated in places natural gas, petroleum, and asphaltum which is used for asphalt pavements. The largest production of coal in the South is in Alabama.

In Louisiana there are beds of rock salt, 1,765 feet thick; also important deposits of sulphur, which is dissolved by hot water and then raised by forcing hot air to the bottom of the well. By virtue of these deposits, the United States has become a rival of Italy in the production of sulphur. (Fig. 90.)

60%	35%	5%
Italy	United States	All others
490 thousand tons	298	40

Data from Mineral Resources, 1907

FIG. 90. *Sulphur production of the world. Total in 1906, 837 thousand tons.*

Finally, in western Texas, which touches the Rocky Mountain region, there is a considerable output of mercury and of silver. These have given rise to a smelting industry at El Paso, using petroleum as fuel.

**163. Manufactures in the South.** The South is still in the main a farming community; but a rapid development of manufactures is in progress, based on the conjunction of coal, water power, and raw materials.

Southern manufactures are mostly concerned with raw materials of local origin on which freight charges would be high if shipped any great distance. Examples are: lumber along the rivers which penetrate forested areas, notably at Little Rock, Ark., Mobile and Montgomery, Ala., Jacksonville, Fla., and Wilmington, N. C.; phosphate fertilizers at Charleston, S. C.; leather goods at Dallas, Waco, and San Antonio, and packing-house products at Fort Worth, all near the Texas ranches; and sugar refining at New Orleans, in the midst of the cane fields which are largely near the river.

Excellent tanning materials are at hand in the chestnut oak, producing tan colors, and in palmetto roots. One of the principal centers of chestnut-oak tanneries is Louisville, where hides were perhaps obtained originally from the Cincinnati packing houses.

The manufacture of cotton-seed oil and cake is carried on in many of the cities in the cotton belt, notably Memphis, Tenn., and Houston, Texas. The cake serves either as a fertilizer or as food for stock. (Fig. 47.) Outside the cotton belt and in the uplands, flour milling and furniture making are important industries, especially at Nashville, Knoxville, and Chattanooga in the Great Valley, and at Roanoke, Va. Flour is also a leading product at Fort Worth, in the Texas black-waxy belt, where wheat is a leading crop.

The tobacco industry is largely localized in a few districts. The Cuban district includes Key West and Tampa, where Cuban tobacco is landed. Others are in the tobacco belt, notably at Louisville, which is the leading tobacco market; at Covington and Newport across the river from Cincinnati; at Richmond and Petersburg, Va.; and at Winston-Salem and Durham, N. C.

The two fundamental industries, however, for which the South would seem to have unique advantages, are cotton and

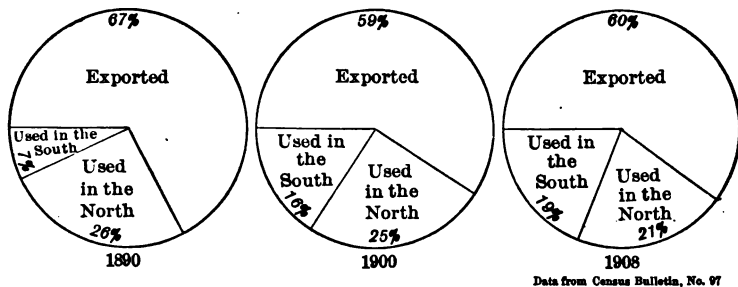
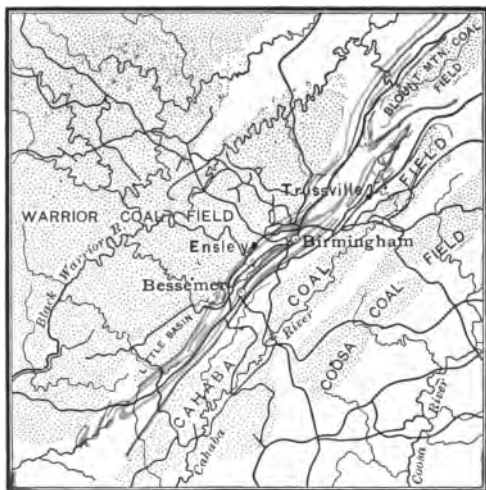


FIG. 91. Destination of cotton crop of the United States, showing increased domestic consumption, especially in the South.

iron manufactures. Cotton mills were first established along the Fall Line, where water power and in some cases water

transportation were available, as at Columbia, S. C., Augusta and Macon, Ga. The cotton industry has now spread to other cities such as Raleigh and Charlotte, N. C., and Atlanta, Ga., which are not distant from the coal fields and can draw their labor from the sturdy white population of the uplands. So great are the advantages in the South that the proportion of cotton consumed in Southern mills has largely increased. (Fig. 91.) South Carolina and North Carolina at the Twelfth Census in cotton manufactures ranked next to Massachusetts.

The iron industry is established at a number of points in the Allegheny-Cumberland coal field, notably at Wheeling, W. Va., and Birmingham, Ala. Now that phosphorus, which is rather abundant in Alabama ores, can be removed by the open-hearth basic process (§119), and some architects prefer open-hearth steel for structural purposes, the Birmingham district, where iron, coal, and limestone lie side by side, has become the Pittsburgh of the South. (Fig. 92.)



Courtesy of E. F. Burchard, U. S. Geo. Survey

FIG. 92. Alabama coal and iron region.

§119), and some architects prefer open-hearth steel for structural purposes, the Birmingham district, where iron, coal, and limestone lie side by side, has become the Pittsburgh of the South. (Fig. 92.)

#### 164. Commercial Centers of the South Atlantic Region.

The Appalachians rear a higher and more continuous front south of the Potomac, being crossed by only four railroads in over 500 miles. These roads, moreover, have difficult grades. The two slopes of the Appalachians, therefore, face commercially in opposite directions.

On the Atlantic slope, one trunk line of railway roughly parallel with the coast traverses the plain just below the Fall Line, and another skirts the Blue Ridge, both crossing the Potomac at Washington. A third line follows the Great Valley west of the Blue Ridge, which offers another natural route from Philadelphia and New York to New Orleans.

Three of the railways crossing the mountains converge at the mouth of the James River. Newport News and Norfolk are consequently not only the natural outlets of Virginia and parts of North Carolina, but they are likewise the Atlantic seaports of Cincinnati and Louisville. They are also important in the coal trade. The fourth railway across the Appalachians, along the French Broad River, connects (since 1880) Knoxville and Charleston.

Atlanta, however, standing opposite the first easy passage-way from the coast to the Great Valley, is well named the "Gate City of the South," being at the crossing of the main roads which traverse, and those which parallel, the mountains.

Knoxville and Chattanooga in the Great Valley are in turn the focal points of lines from the west and north which enter through Cumberland Gap, the Tennessee Water Gap at Chattanooga, and other depressions in the mountain rim.

South of the Chesapeake the land dips very gently beneath the sea and the coast is lined with sand bars. The river mouths, drowned by a slight sinking of the land, form practically the only approaches to the land, and even these need frequent dredging to admit large vessels. The rivers are, moreover, shorter and shallower than farther north, because the eastern range of the Appalachians here carries the main water-parting. Conditions are, therefore, not favorable for water transportation; and the principal towns are found not on the sea coast, but along the Fall Line at the inner margin of the Coastal Plain. However, the barrier beaches, the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, and two canals connecting Chesapeake Bay with Albemarle Sound, provide sheltered coastwise navigation for small vessels from Philadelphia

almost to Wilmington, N. C. Another stretch of sheltered waters extends from Savannah to Fernandina, Fla.

In the region south of Cape Hatteras, the leading seaport is Savannah, located where the broad curve of the shore carries the ocean farthest into the land, and where the trunk line through Chattanooga and Atlanta reaches the sea. Where the railways meet, the shipping gathers also.

**165. Commercial Routes and Centers of the Gulf Region.** Thomas Jefferson declared any foreign nation holding the mouth of the Mississippi to be "the natural and necessary enemy of the United States;" for it is the natural outlet by water of nearly half the country. The lower Mississippi, being ice free and of ample depth, is still a great artery of commerce. Its tributaries penetrating the Allegheny coal field are also of commercial value. Especially is this true of the Tennessee, now navigable to Knoxville, Tenn.

The eastward drift of traffic by rail in the North, after the Civil War, tended to rob even the Mississippi of its old importance, and to check the growth of all the Gulf ports. Nevertheless the Mississippi Valley affording a broad and level field for railway construction, is clearly the line of least resistance

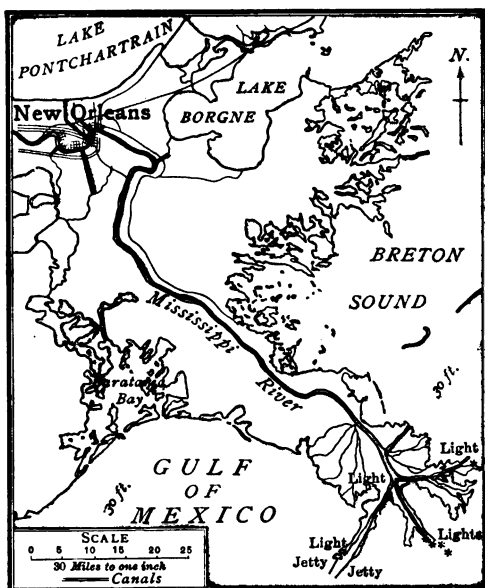


FIG. 93. New Orleans Harbor, showing the location with reference to Lake Pontchartrain (the original port of the city), the delta, and the routes of canals and railways.

from the South Central region to tidewater; and in recent years the Gulf ports have all advanced with rapid strides.

New Orleans, commanding the southern gateway of the continent, is naturally the metropolis of the South and has become the second port of the United States, measured by the value of its exports and imports. (Fig. 93.)

Galveston, lying at the head of the Gulf, is the commercial outlet of Texas and the Southwest as far as Denver. Though built on a sand bar and overwhelmed by the sea in 1900,



FIG. 94. *Galveston sea wall.*

Galveston has now raised its foundations and built a sea wall (Fig. 94) against future assaults of the waves. Few ports in the world are more secure of a great future.

In like manner Mobile and Pensacola are the natural outlets on the Gulf of the coal and iron districts around Birmingham, and, in fact, of the eastern Mississippi Valley as far as Cincinnati. Mobile in particular has profited largely from the increase of commerce with Cuba and Central America, importing tropical fruits and woods, sisal hemp, and even

Cuban manganese for the steel works along the Great Lakes. It is at the head of tidewater navigation in the eastern, as Galveston is in the western, part of the Gulf; and commerce in heavy commodities seeks inlying ports.

Tampa stands on the only deep-water harbor for hundreds of miles, and near large deposits of phosphate. It also handles considerable Cuban traffic for the Atlantic slope.

Key West will no doubt acquire a great mail and passenger traffic, which seeks outlying ports, once the railway is finished thither over the line of coral islands. Key West is the most southerly city in the United States, but a step from Havana. It is, in fact, the farthest outpost of the United States toward the West Indies, Central America, and the Panama Canal.

A bridge across a great river attracts commerce much like a gap in the mountains, since a train ferry is always a slow and unsatisfactory substitute. For this reason Memphis, standing on a bluff which the river closely approaches, and which serves as an abutment for the southernmost bridge on the Mississippi, has become a great railway center and the third city of the South.

Other points where railways converge are Louisville, at the Falls of the Ohio, which forms one gateway toward the north; and El Paso, at the gap cut by the Rio Grande in the Rockies, which is the southern gateway toward the Pacific. Louisville is the second city of the South. For many business purposes, moreover, it includes New Albany and Jeffersonville across the Ohio.

When the Panama Canal shall be completed, new life will be given to every industry and every harbor in the South—above all to New Orleans—and likewise to every city on the Mississippi from St. Paul to the Gulf. Much commerce that now goes east or west will go south; still more commerce will be created by the fact of cheap transportation to the west coast of America and to the Orient. The South will then lie on one of the main world thoroughfares.



## XII—THE NORTH CENTRAL SECTION

**166. The People of the North Central Section.** The North Central section, comprising the states north of the Ohio and west to Colorado, is to-day the heart of the Republic. (Fig. 64.) The population, originally drawn from the best stock of the older states, has been augmented from many sources. Despite this diversity of origin, the uniformity of the land and the wide reach and unbroken horizon of the prairies have not failed to leave their impress on the people. Nowhere else are the democratic traditions of American life so well preserved.

**167. The Climate of the North Central Section.** The climate is of the extreme continental type, with hot summers that rapidly mature the crops, and cold winters that not only pulverize the soil, but also maintain the physical vitality of the race. (Fig. 56.)

As one goes west beyond the line of twenty inches rainfall, the country is increasingly given over to pastoral pursuits except where irrigation is possible. (Fig. 57.) In recent years, however, some progress has been made in developing a type of farming suited to semi-arid conditions. (§196.) In this semi-arid belt a decrease of a few inches more in the rainfall would cause even the grass to disappear, and with it the herds, leaving only desert solitudes.

**168. The Soils of the North Central Section.** North of the Ohio and Missouri, which probably cut their valleys when flowing along the edges of the great ice sheet,<sup>1</sup> most of the soil is of glacial origin (§136). It is consequently rough and rocky where the front of the glacier long stood, coarse and gravelly where strong currents flowed, and composed of fine clay or of loam where the currents were checked. Thus the clay soil of the Red River Valley, which grows splendid wheat, was deposited as sediment in glacial Lake Agassiz.

<sup>1</sup>Mill, *International Geography*, p. 744.

As in New England, there are large tracts toward the north better suited for forests than farming. As a whole, however, the section has a larger proportion of fertile land than any other in the United States. Moreover, the glacial soil, containing rock waste of many kinds and numerous pebbles which furnish plant food as they slowly decay, is not so easily exhausted by tillage as residual soils. For fifty years this part of the United States has therefore been the granary of the modern, as Egypt was of the ancient, world.

**169. Furs and Fish.** In the forested regions along the lakes, just as in northern Maine and in the southern Appalachians, we find a "retarded frontier"—that is, a section where frontier conditions and modes of life still prevail. Settlers are, however, rapidly pressing on, clearing away the wreck left by the axe of the lumberman, and with infinite labor opening farms in the wilderness. The present generation will witness the final disappearance of frontier conditions wherever the soil is fit for farming.

In the meantime the trapping of fur-bearing animals, that characteristic frontier industry, is still carried on within these forested districts. St. Paul, an early station of the Hudson Bay Company, is an important market not only for American, but also for Canadian, furs.

The fisheries of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River system support a considerable population living on rocky and sandy shores that afford no other means of support. The most important lake species are whitefish, salmon trout, and sturgeon. Refrigeration enables the fish to be consumed fresh in all parts of the section.

**170. The Forests of the North Central Section.** In the eastern and southern part of the North Central region, some scattered hard-wood groves remain, consisting chiefly of oak. In addition there is some ash, which commonly serves for parts of tools; basswood, used for small wooden wares; birch, employed for furniture; and maple, used for floors. St. Louis and Cincinnati are important markets for hard-wood lumber.



Courtesy of Northwestern Miller

a. *Ancient method—Arabs in Algeria cutting grain with sickles.*



Courtesy of International Harvester Co.

b. *First American improvement—the grain cradle, invented, 1803.*



Courtesy of International Harvester Co.

c. *Second American improvement—the self-binding reaper invented (as a mower), 1834.*

FIG. 95. *Evolution of grain harvesting from the time of Ruth and Boaz until to-day.*

From central Michigan north and west to the Red River Valley there were originally magnificent forests of white and Norway pine, with some hemlock, spruce, and other varieties. In this section, as in Maine, the frost and snow of winter, which transform marsh and stream into ideal roadways, have made lumbering both cheap and rapid. For this very reason, in part, the forests are now approaching exhaustion.

**171. Grain Crops in the North Central Section.** To the early settlers, fresh from the rocky hillsides of New England, these broad fertile prairies seemed indeed the Promised Land.

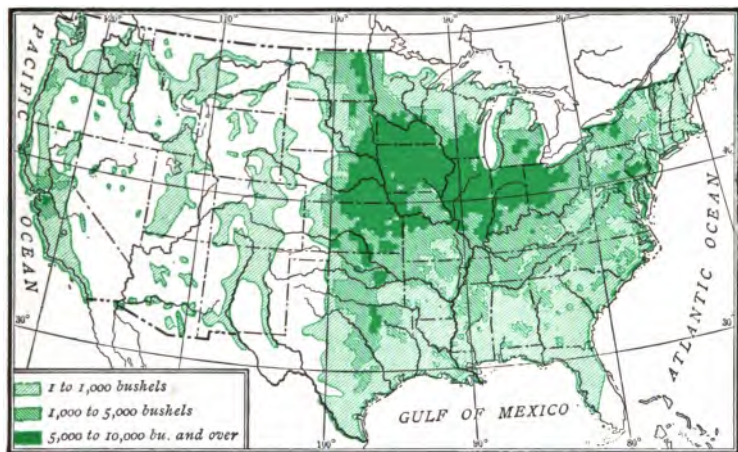


FIG. 96. *Yield of all grains per square mile.*

After Twelfth Census

Grains flourished here as they had never done on the eastern uplands. The level prairies, moreover, afforded a fair field for the great inventions in the line of farm machinery, such as the mower (1834), reaper, and thresher, which have revolutionized agriculture not less suddenly and completely than manufactures have been transformed by steam and electricity. (Fig. 95.) Vergil would have found little new on an American farm a century ago; to-day there would be little that he could understand. Grain thus became for the North Central region very nearly what cotton was in the South.

The several kinds of grain are grown more or less in all parts of the section. (Fig. 96.) In the southern half, however, south of Milwaukee, the leading crops are corn, which needs a hot summer; and winter wheat, which, being sown in the fall, needs a moderate winter. In the northern part of the section the great staple is spring wheat. Considerable crops of barley and rye are also grown, rye especially on sandy soils. Oats are a common crop throughout the section.

Owing chiefly to the grain fields of the North Central section, the United States produces three-fourths of the corn of the world. It likewise grows more wheat than any other country, and is second only to Russia in the harvest of oats. (Fig. 43.)

**172. Other Crops of the North Central Section.** Tobacco is the leading crop in parts of the lower Ohio and Missouri valleys, also in some districts of southern Wisconsin. Since

54%	28%	10%	8%
United States	Tunis and Algeria	France	All others
2.1 million tons	1.1	.4	.3

Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907

FIG. 97. *Flaxseed crop of the world. Total in 1906:*  
87.5 million bushels.

the abolition of slavery, tobacco culture has been making its way from the lowlands into the uplands, and from the south toward the north. This migration is the result of more intensive cultivation. Tobacco is now sometimes grown in fields covered with vast tents of cheese cloth, which equalize the temperature, check evaporation, and thus produce a thinner and finer leaf for wrappers.

On rich soils, sugar beets are increasingly grown. In fact, there is practically a sugar-beet belt across the continent and down the Pacific slope. This belt traverses New York, Michigan, and Wisconsin. It lies mostly north of the true corn belt, because beets require to be cultivated at the same time as corn. They moreover call for so much hand labor that a man can care for a much larger acreage of corn than of beets.

Another important crop in the same zone of mixed farming, which extends from New York through Michigan and Wisconsin along the northern margin of the corn belt, is field beans. These are planted, harvested, and threshed much like wheat. In the production of beans, Michigan holds first place.

A third crop in the same zone, north of the corn belt, is potatoes. This is indeed the staple crop on the tracts of sandy soil left by the great glacier. Wisconsin and Michigan thus rank next to New York in their yield of potatoes.

In western Minnesota and the Dakotas, especially where the soil is new and strong, flax is extensively grown for the seed (Fig. 97), which yields linseed oil. This is indispensable in paints, as it dries on exposure to the air.

Temperate fruits are grown for local use in all the states. Along the southern and eastern shores of the Great Lakes, which tend to lessen the extremes of heat and cold, fruit growing for market prevails. This region ranks next to California in the production of fruits.

Certain districts in western Michigan, especially around Kalamazoo, which were settled largely by Dutch, have become famous for celery and other vegetables. In the same districts herbs are grown for distillation of essential oils, especially peppermint, of which Michigan is the largest producer in the world.

**173. Stock Raising in the North Central Section.** As early as 1805 stock began to be driven across the mountains to Baltimore. With the consolidation of the railroads, into large systems, after 1850, driving to market gave way to shipment by rail. Stock raising then became more than ever a frontier industry, because free range was available there and as settlements advanced, and the land rose in value, the herds could be driven on in search of fresh pastures.

In Ohio and Michigan, once the great wool-producing region, sheep are still of importance, though mutton rather than wool is now the main product. Rich soil in this section is, however, too valuable to carry sheep. Moreover, the losses from dogs are serious, but it does not pay to hire shepherds

to protect a small flock. On the plains west of the agricultural zone, cattle and sheep are still raised on wild grasses, and largely shipped into the corn belt to be fattened. The grazing industry is thus quite distinct from the feeding industry. Hogs are also raised in the corn belt, in immense numbers; and likewise as a by-product of the dairy, being fed on skim milk. Corn is in fact chiefly fed to stock and marketed "on the hoof." It commands a higher price in the form of meat, and is also condensed, thereby saving two-thirds of the freight. Moreover, live stock is of great value in maintaining the fertility of the soil.

**174. Dairy Products in the North Central Section.** The dairy industry has made rapid progress in recent years, partly because the soil generally shows the effect of continuous cropping in grain. The leading dairy state in the Middle West at the Twelfth Census was Wisconsin, though Minnesota is fast becoming known as the "Bread and Butter" state. Dairying is the most promising industry on the cut-over pine lands in the lake states, where grasses and roots flourish better than grains. Its development, however, depends quite as much on market conditions as on geographical conditions. Thus dairying has made more rapid progress in Wisconsin and Minnesota where the farmers have organized coöperative creameries on the Danish model, than it has in Kansas and Nebraska where centralizers (great private creameries) control the situation and pay the producer seven to eight cents less per pound for butter fat than is paid where coöperative creameries prevail.<sup>1</sup>

**175. The Location of Manufactures.** The center of general manufactures in the United States follows, although with lagging step, the westward march of the center of population. It is now located in Ohio, which enjoys, together with Indiana and Illinois, the double advantage of abundant fuel and water transportation both by lake and river. (Fig. 98.)

This migration has occurred because industries **naturally** prosper near raw materials and large markets (§70).

<sup>1</sup>Report of Chief of Bureau of Animal Industry, 1907.

**176. Manufactures of Timber.** The sawing of pine lumber is still carried on to some extent at numerous cities on the Great Lakes and connecting waters, especially Duluth, Minn.; Superior and Oshkosh, Wis.; and Saginaw, Bay City, and Muskegon, Mich. Lumber and its secondary products, such as lath, sash, and doors, are also important along the upper Mississippi and its tributaries, which bring down the logs at slight cost: notably so at La Crosse, Wis.; Minneapolis and Winona, Minn.; Dubuque, Burlington, and Clinton, Iowa; and at the "Tri-City," Davenport-Rock Island-Moline. Comparatively, however, the water ways have decreased in



FIG. 98. *The westward migration of centers of population, agriculture, and manufactures.*

importance for logging purposes, being superseded by light logging railways and through shipment by rail, as the forests have been cut farther and farther back from the rivers.

The rivers descending from the upland, north and west of the Great Lakes, generate much water power. This, together with the abundance of pulp wood along the rivers, has given rise to a large manufacture of paper, especially in the district adjacent to Green Bay, Wis. Other localities having special facilities for producing wood pulp are Sault Ste. Marie, where a power canal has been built; the St. Louis River, near Duluth; and the Rainy River, at International Falls, Minn.



Furniture, made chiefly of hard wood, is manufactured at Grand Rapids, Mich., where the river served originally to carry timber and drive the machinery. Much of the lumber now comes by rail and most of the mills employ steam; but Grand Rapids remains the center of furniture manufacture because of business experience and prestige, and the presence of skilled labor. Other furniture centers are Chicago, Rockford, Ill., situated much like Grand Rapids, and Sheboygan, Wis., on Lake Michigan.

The manufacture of agricultural implements and road vehicles is also dependent on hard-wood forests. It has in a measure followed the westward movement of agriculture because implements and wagons occupy much car space and are therefore expensive to ship.

The center of the implement industry is now at Chicago, and the center of the vehicle industry is at Cincinnati; both conveniently located with reference to the Central Plain and having access by water to hard-wood timber and to iron. Other important centers are Moline, Ill., which at the Census of 1905 ranked next to Chicago in the implement industry; Springfield, Ohio; St. Louis, Mo.; South Bend, Ind.; Jackson, Mich.; Racine, Wis.; and Peoria, Ill.

**177. Meat Packing.** In this country meat packing began at Cincinnati (1818). With the use (since 1868, and especially since about 1880) of ice and more recently of compressed air to chill fresh meat, the packing industry has migrated toward the cattle pastures and cornfields. Live stock occupies more room, needs more care, and is subject to greater losses in transit than are refrigerated meats.

The packing industry has been concentrated in a comparatively few great establishments, which use the entire animal, producing a multitude of valuable by-products.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Including soups gelatine, and beef tea; oleomargarine, lard, candles, and soap; glue, buttons, and knife handles. In addition, bristles serve for brushes; animal charcoal for sugar refining; hair for upholstering, filling mattresses, and mixing with mortar.

The present center of meat packing is Chicago, the greatest live-stock market in the world, owing to its central location in the corn belt and its transportation facilities. Hammond, just over the Indiana line, has also immense packing plants. The advanced stations of the packing industry are on the Missouri at Kansas City, Kans.; St. Joseph, Mo.; South Omaha, Nebr.; and Sioux City, Iowa; and on the upper Mississippi at South St. Paul. Other important seats of the industry are St. Louis, Indianapolis, and Cincinnati, all in the corn belt.

**178. Grain Products.** Starch, syrup, and other corn products are extensively manufactured at Chicago. (Fig. 45.) So much corn, indeed, is fed to stock or used in manufactures that relatively little is exported.

The prosperity of the Northwest began (1870) with the system of successive millings of wheat which, by removing the dark-colored bran, suddenly made spring wheat the most valuable for bread making.<sup>1</sup>

Minneapolis, located in the spring-wheat belt at the Falls of St. Anthony, is by far the greatest flour-milling city in the world. Flour milling is likewise the leading industry, measured by value of products, in Kansas City, Mo., and Toledo, Ohio, both in wheat-growing regions and originally favored by water transportation; and it is an important industry in numerous smaller cities which are the business centers of rich agricultural districts. Such are Evansville, Ind.; Decatur and Bloomington, Ill.; Des Moines and Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Topeka and Wichita, Kans.

<sup>1</sup>Spring wheat is especially rich in gluten which is advantageous in bread making. But so long as the stones were set close together and the grain reduced to flour at one grinding, the bran, which is coarser in spring wheat, remained with the flour, discolored it and by absorbing moisture caused it to spoil. The new process consisted in setting the stones farther apart at first and removing the bran in large pieces before reducing the rest to flour. The germ, being oily is also removed.

The roller or "patent" process differs chiefly in that buhrstones are replaced by rollers, but the principle of successive millings is retained.

Associated with flour milling is the crushing of flax seed for oil, in which Minneapolis has the same preëminence as in flour.

**179. Other Manufactures.** The principal tanning center in the West is Milwaukee, conveniently located to obtain hides from Chicago and tanbark from the hemlock forests of Wisconsin. The making of leather goods is, however, widely distributed. St. Louis ranked after Brockton and Lynn, at the Census of 1905, in the manufacture of shoes, while Cincinnati stood first in harness and saddlery.

The manufacture of rubber goods is an immense industry at Akron, Ohio. This is no doubt due to an early start and acquired skill, though the development of the city itself can be traced to its location on the summit level of the Ohio Canal, and the presence of water power.

Ready-made clothing is manufactured in all the large cities, as in the East (§144), and especially in Chicago.

Beer is likewise brewed in all the large centers of population. Milwaukee is, however, especially prominent in the brewing industry. The distilling of strong liquors, on the other hand, is concentrated in a few cities, situated in the heart of the corn belt, chiefly Peoria, Ill., and Terre Haute, Ind.

**180. Mineral Fuels in the North Central Section.** Large "pools" of natural gas and petroleum have been tapped in Ohio, Indiana, southern Illinois, and Kansas. (Fig. 71.)

The oil is piped to Cleveland and Toledo, Ohio, and still more extensively to Whiting, Ind., for refining. Pipe lines also extend from the mid-continent field both to the Gulf of Mexico and to tidewater on the Atlantic.

The coal fields of the North Central section embrace more than half the coal lands in the United States. The coal in the plains, however, having been less compressed than in the mountains, is in large part only semi-bituminous; while toward the west it is of late origin, and therefore lignitic, as in North Dakota. For these reasons the plains depend on the Appalachian field for high-grade bituminous coals. (Fig. 70.)

**181. Lead and Zinc in the North Central Section.** Lead and zinc are found in two districts, which produce about a third of the lead and the bulk of the zinc mined in the United States. The district around Dubuque, Iowa, was opened by Julien Dubuque (1788), from whom the city received its name. In this district, zinc is now the chief product. The other, on the flanks of the Ozarks, especially around Joplin, Mo., was also worked at an early date (1798). There is even a tradition of Missouri lead having been used in the Revolution. The Joplin district now has much the larger output. In recent years many lead and zinc smelters have been erected in the gas and oil belt of southeastern Kansas.

**182. Gold and Copper in the North Central Section.** Gold is extensively mined in the Black Hills, an outlying part of the Rocky Mountains, South Dakota usually ranking fourth in the production of gold.

On Keweenaw Point, which juts out into Lake Superior, is a layer of porous volcanic rock containing flakes and sometimes huge masses of pure copper. (Fig. 99.) The metal is extracted



Data from Geological Survey

FIG. 99. *Lake Superior iron and copper districts.*



a. Mining iron ore with steam shovel, Mountain Iron Mine.



Copyright, 1902, by Grandall and Fletcher, Duluth

b. Ore dock at Allouez, Wis. Cars run on top and dump the ore into pockets, whence it runs by gravity into vessels, through the long pipes shown in the picture.

FIG. 100. Modern methods of handling Lake Superior iron ore.

by mining and crushing the rock. These deposits rendered Michigan for many years (after 1844) the chief source of domestic copper.

**183. Iron Ore in the North Central Section.** The iron ranges about Lake Superior are the remnants of mountains which in remote geological times were probably as high as the Rockies. The iron once diffused through them has been deposited by percolating waters in fabulously rich ore beds.

The Superior iron ores contain few impurities, and run as high as seventy per cent metallic iron. They can be mined in places, especially on the Mesabi Range, by steam shovels. (Figs. 100 and 101.) After the opening of the Sault Ste. Marie Canal (1855) these ores became easily accessible to water transportation. Now as a result the Superior ranges<sup>1</sup> furnish more than three-fourths of our domestic iron ore, and far exceed in output either Great Britain or Germany. In fact, Minnesota alone commonly mines more iron ore in a year than any foreign nation.



Copyright, 1905, by Keystone View Co., N. Y.

**FIG. 101.** *Clam shell scoop in hold of vessel taking a 12-ton bite. The scoop is then swung out and dumped on dock or into waiting cars.*

<sup>1</sup>The Superior iron ranges were opened as follows: Marquette (Mich.), 1854; Menominee (Mich. and Wis.), 1872; Gogebic (Mich. and Wis.), 1884; Vermilion (Minn.), 1884; Mesabi (Minn.), 1890; Michipicoten (Canada), 1900; Cuyuna (Minn.), 1905. (Fig. 99.)

**184. Manufactures of Iron and Steel.** Owing to the lack of coal near the Superior iron ranges, the ore is mostly shipped to the south shore of the lakes, or even some distance inland from that shore, where it meets the coke from Connellsville and West Virginia: for example, at South Chicago, Joliet, and Gary (the new steel city at the southern tip of Lake Michigan), which rank next to the Pittsburg district; and at Cleveland, Youngstown, and Columbus, Ohio. This iron-ore traffic has also built up a row of ports along the south shore of Lake Erie, notably Ashtabula, Conneaut, and Lorain. Now, however, three-quarters of a ton of coke (in place of six tons as formerly) suffices in modern furnaces to smelt a ton of ore. It is, indeed, still true that the coke occupies more room in transportation than the ore, but the recent establishment of a complete steel plant on the St. Louis River near Duluth shows that the margin of profit in shipping the ore to the coke, rather than the coke to the ore, is getting narrow and may soon disappear.

The manufacture of machinery and miscellaneous iron and steel wares is widely distributed, being perhaps most important in cities having water transportation, such as Milwaukee, Detroit, Toledo, and Cincinnati, also Davenport and Quincy, on the Mississippi. The center of the automobile industry is at Detroit. On the other hand, the iron works at Hamilton near Cincinnati, and Aurora near Chicago, are favored by lower ground rents. This advantage is more and more attracting manufactures to suburban cities.

Cash registers are a specialty at Dayton, and ornamental iron work at Canton, Ohio, both on the edge of the Pittsburg-Cleveland iron-smelting district. The principal watch factories in the Middle West are at Elgin, Ill.

Steel shipbuilding is an important industry at the principal lake cities; as is the manufacture of cars and other railway plants at railway centers, notably Chicago, St. Louis and East St. Louis, St. Paul, Council Bluffs, Fort Wayne, Ind., and Springfield, Ill.

**185. Other Mineral Products.** Vast beds of gypsum, associated in places with rock salt, extend from Texas through Kansas into Iowa, and reappear again in Michigan. These were presumably left behind by the drying up of some ancient sea. Water is pumped through the beds and then evaporated, coal being used in place of solar heat as in dry climates. The abundance of salt is one cause that has favored the growth of a large chemical industry at Detroit.

Ohio, possessing abundance of clay, leads in the manufacture of clay products. Cincinnati and East Liverpool compete with Trenton in pottery, while Zanesville is noted for art tiling and pressed brick.

Important glass and tin-plate industries have grown up on the Indiana gas field, at Muncie and Anderson. Muncie, indeed, rivals Pittsburg in glass blowing.

Other mineral manufactures are grindstones, made of Berea grit, in Ohio; and Portland cement, made along the Great Lakes and the Ohio River. (Fig. 73.)

**186. Water Ways of the North Central Section.** Within the memory of men still living, most of this region was a virgin wilderness; probably never before was it given to any man to behold such a transformation. This is the result of the navigable rivers and lakes, the level surface equally favorable for canal and railway construction, and above all of steam. Thomas Jefferson, in 1803, thought it would be a thousand years before the region east of the Mississippi could be fully settled. He was right, reckoning as he did without steam or electricity.

After the launching of the first steamboat on the Ohio (1811), steamboats soon made their way on to all the navigable rivers. A generation later the coming of railways from the East to the Mississippi (1854) and to the Missouri (1859) drew traffic eastward and checked the growth of river cities, except those which became railway centers.

The upper Mississippi still floats huge rafts of logs, though few compared to ten years ago; the Ohio carries great fleets



of barges loaded with coal; while the Missouri, having no commodity to transport which can not as well go by rail, is practically deserted. The heaviest traffic is on the Ohio. (Fig. 102.) The steamboat "Sprague" has taken 70,000 tons of coal (sufficient to load some fifteen miles of freight cars) to New Orleans in one tow, at a cost of 3.2 mills per ton per mile.

The Mississippi system, embracing over half the mileage of navigable rivers in the United States is connected by canal



Courtesy of Cincinnati Industrial Bureau

FIG. 102. *Fleet of barges carrying coal down the Ohio.*

with the Great Lakes along three routes, following the portages of the early French explorers and fur traders. These canals connect: (1) the Wisconsin and Fox rivers; (2) the Illinois and Chicago rivers; (3) the Ohio River with Lake Erie at Toledo and Cleveland. (Fig. 59.) There is also a canal recently completed by the Federal Government connecting the Illinois River with the Mississippi at Rock Island. (Fig. 62.) Most of these canals will have to be either deepened or abandoned, as they are too shallow (four to seven feet) to compete with railways.

The state of Ohio, indeed, has already authorized the deepening to twelve feet of the Ohio Canal from Cleveland to the Muskingum River, which is to be improved through to the Ohio by the Federal Government. A still more important project, which has been undertaken by a private corporation, is the construction of a ship canal from Pittsburg to Lake Erie, so that iron ore and coal may go through without transshipment.

The Chicago Drainage and Ship Canal (twenty-two feet deep), paralleling part of the way the earlier and smaller Illinois and Michigan Canal, is doubtless the beginning of a deep-water connection with the Gulf of Mexico. The project of deepening the Illinois and Mississippi rivers so as to afford a fourteen-foot channel from the Great Lakes to the Gulf is already a live issue and will certainly command still stronger support after the opening of the Panama Canal.

The Great Lakes, however, are far and away the most important factor in the commerce of this region, forming a superb water way over a thousand miles into the very heart of the continent, bearing in a year one-third as much freight as all the railways in the United States and at about one-tenth the cost.<sup>1</sup> A single vessel in 1908 carried from Duluth to Buffalo 422,000 bushels of grain, equivalent at fourteen bushels to the acre to the crop from about fifty square miles of wheat fields. The Sault Ste. Marie Canal (Fig. 103), connecting lakes Superior and Huron, carries a tonnage several times greater than the Suez Canal. Cargoes go in bulk, unbroken, from Duluth and Chicago to Buffalo; by using the Welland Canal (or the enlarged Erie Canal, when open), they may even reach the sea.

**187. Commercial Centers of the North Central Section.** The level surface, high average fertility, and relatively dense population of the Central Plain have caused it to be covered with a close-meshed net of railways (Fig. 127) especially south

<sup>1</sup> In 1904 the average freight rate per ton per mile on the Great Lakes was .81 mill; on the railways it was 7.8 mills.

of the Great Lakes. This condition permits commerce to follow as a rule the shortest routes. Each city is thus a commercial center for a considerable district. Some, however, are located "in the very throat of the converging lines of commerce."

This is preëminently the case with Chicago, at the southwestern end of the Great Lakes route, where all railways from the West and Northwest of necessity converge in order to pass



FIG. 103. *The Sault Ste. Marie Canal. Vessels at left are being let down from the level of Lake Superior to the level of Lake Huron by gradual lowering of water between two sets of gates.*

around Lake Michigan. This location, which made Chicago the greatest railway center in the world, is the one great advantage possessed by Chicago over Milwaukee. More than any other city, Chicago seems to embody the very spirit of the prairies; for there things are done on a truly gigantic scale.

But for the Canadian boundary, which turns commerce from the natural line of least resistance, Duluth-Superior, at the northwestern end of the Great Lakes route, would be a second Chicago, controlling the trade of all western Canada.

Canada extends nearly as far south as Chicago; but the Great Lakes bar admission by rail from the West except in three places. At Sault Ste. Marie a bridge forms the connecting link between the northwestern states and Montreal. Again, the narrow waters between lakes Huron and Erie are tunneled at Port Huron for a line from Chicago direct to Toronto. Finally, another tunnel at Detroit opens the shortest railway route from Chicago to Buffalo. Detroit, situated on the most frequented strait in the world, where goods for the southern portion of Michigan are landed, is thus in addition the gateway from the West to southern Canada, and one of the gateways to New York.

St. Louis was located by Laclede (1764) as a center for the fur trade, on a commanding bluff near the mouths of the Illinois and the Missouri. This convergence of river valleys in the midst of the Central Plain has made St. Louis a great commercial center both by river and rail. Cincinnati occupies a somewhat similar position with reference to the Ohio and its tributaries. St. Louis and Cincinnati, together with Louisville, are the principal gateways toward the South.

In like manner, Kansas City and Omaha owe their development to the convergence of river valleys, affording easy routes for railways; while the Twin Cities—Minneapolis and St. Paul—grew up, the one because of water power, the other at the head of ordinary navigation on the Mississippi. These are the gate cities toward the West. At each of these centers the railways converge; and from it they again diverge into the territory beyond.

### *XIII—THE WESTERN SECTION*

**188. "The Winning of the West."** Nations, like rivers, strive ever to reach the sea. The United States would have been permanently crippled had any strong foreign power retained its hold upon the western bank of the Mississippi.

For this reason, it was impossible that the northern provinces of Mexico should permanently bar the American advance toward the Pacific. (Fig. 124.) No matter how much we may theorize about it, nothing can in the long run avail to protect rich lands, sparsely peopled by ignorant and unprogressive populations, from occupation by more intelligent and energetic races.

**189. "The Land of Little Rain."** From the beginning of the Great Plains (2,000 feet elevation), approximately along the 100th meridian, to the snowy crest of the Sierra Nevada Range, a distance of some 1,200 miles, stretches the "land of little rain." Only the higher ranges there condense enough moisture to support forests. Throughout most of this vast region, land alone is worthless, but water is priceless; whoever controls a spring or flowing well (Fig. 104), or a stream fed by the mountain snows, is indeed lord of all he surveys.

Toward the southwest, in New Mexico and Arizona, the descending air currents (§52) and the more rapid evaporation due to the greater heat produce some patches of true desert.

Toward the north, on the other hand, lower temperature and stronger west winds produce a heavier rainfall. There, too, the Columbia Gap, admits the moisture-laden winds as far as the lofty Bitter Root Range, thus helping to water the splendid wheat district over rich lava soils about Spokane.

In spite of the great elevation, even the valleys being 6,000 to 8,000 feet above sea level, the region between the Rocky and Sierra Nevada mountains enjoys a surprisingly mild climate, because the sun shines the year round from an almost cloudless sky.

**190. The Pacific Slope.** The western slope, lying open to the Pacific, has an oceanic climate, comparatively warm in winter and cool in summer. Los Angeles in July is no warmer than New York; Seattle in January is no cooler than Charleston, S. C.

Southern California, "facing the sea and the sun" (since there the Coast Ranges trend nearly east and west), has a subtropical climate with almost rainless summers, like Algeria and southern Spain (§52). Irrigation is usually needed south of San Francisco, and prevails behind the Coast Ranges even farther north.

In contrast to most of California, the Pacific slope north of Mount Shasta is a humid district, the rainfall increasing rapidly toward the north. Here, however, as in California, summer is the dry season, winter the rainy season; because the colder the land, the more it chills the warm winds from the Pacific. Here is found the true "new England" of America, where soil and climate most nearly reproduce old England.

**191. Stock Raising in the West.** During the three centuries of Spanish dominion, the few Spanish ranchers in California and New Mexico dreamed away their days amid the most glorious scenery and sunshine in the world



U. S. Geological Survey

FIG. 104. *Artesian well at Woonsocket, S. D., throwing stream ninety-seven feet high.*

Here, if ever, the pastoral Arcadia of the poets was realized. Why toil and sweat to raise crops or dig gold when their herds supplied every rustic luxury? So the Mexicans reasoned; not so the Americans.

The pastoral industry has, nevertheless, continued to develop in the upland valleys along the Pacific; while in the vast region between the Missouri River and the Sierra Nevada Range, stock raising (Fig. 105) followed hard upon the heels of the hunter and trapper. These lofty plateaus are the true

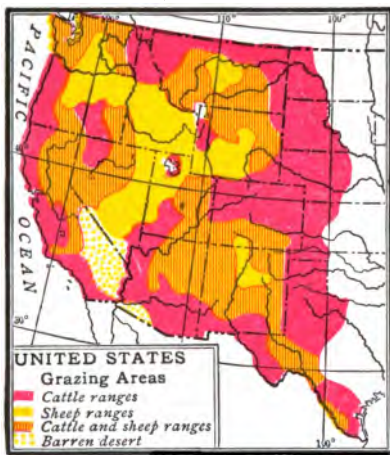


FIG. 105. *Stock ranges of the west.*

sheep crop the grass so close to the roots that cattle can not graze after them. Moreover, the homestead unit of 160 acres is too small for stock farming; consequently as homesteaders have pressed on westward, building their shacks by springs and streams which before served as watering places, stock-raising has decreased. Finally, the stockmen, grazing their herds on public land, have crowded more animals on it than the grass could permanently support. Already large tracts have been transformed into deserts of wind-blown sand, thus causing a material decline in the grazing industry. Many believe

stock country, furnishing most of the young cattle shipped into the corn belt and having by far the largest clip of wool in the United States. (Fig. 106.)

Half-wild horses are also raised on the plains; likewise asses and mules in the mountains where they are indispensable as pack animals, being sure-footed, able to live on little, and to stand much hard usage.

The westward migration of sheep raising has injured the cattle ranges, since



Courtesy of Geological Survey

*a. Windmill and reservoir for watering cattle on the high plains.*



*b. Sheep grazing in the arid country near Powder River.*

FIG. 106. The grazing industry.



that this decline has also been hastened by a combination of packers which (it is thought) enables them to pay the stockmen as little, and to charge the public as much as they see fit, so long as they can thus increase their net profits.

**192. Other Animal Industries.** The dairy, poultry, and bee-keeping industries made marked progress on the Pacific



*Courtesy of Maxwell and Mudge*

**FIG. 107.** *Flume for conveying timber out of the mountains. It is flooded when logs are to be moved.*

slope during the last census period. The leading dairy center is perhaps the Willamette Valley, where the land had been cropped too continuously in wheat. San Francisco is surrounded by the greatest poultry district in the world. Fruit and bees moreover thrive together. Ostrich farming is also a prosperous industry in parts of Arizona and southern California.

**193. The Forests of the West.** The scattered yellow-

pine forests on the Rocky Mountains have furnished much timber for the mines; but their exhaustion is at hand unless still larger forest reserves are established and effectively protected from sheep and goats, which destroy the young growth.

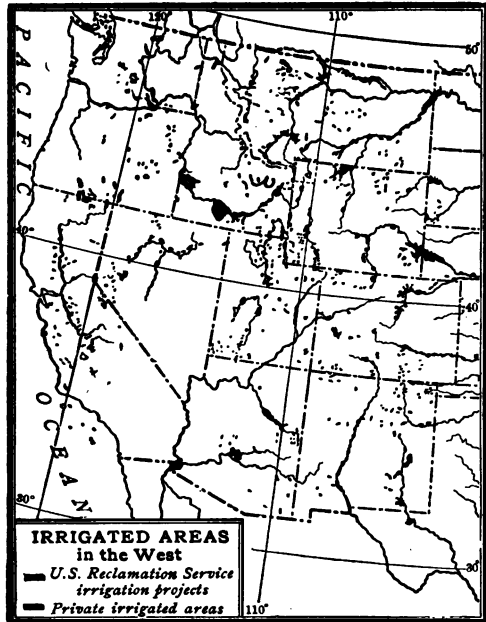
Such protection is especially important because the climate is apparently growing drier. Beach marks on the mountains

show that Great Salt Lake once stood a thousand feet higher than at present. The groves of *Sequoia Gigantea*, in California—the most majestic trees in the world, approaching 400 feet in height, some of which were 3,000 years old at the birth of Christ—are also a legacy from a moister climate, being found in some districts now too dry to reproduce forests.

The northern Pacific slope contains the largest body of standing coniferous woods in the United States, and the most valuable on account of the enormous size and the splendid quality of the trees. Nowhere else are modern methods employed so effectively in lumbering operations. (Fig. 107.) Redwood occupies a narrow strip along the coast of California, from San Francisco north. Farther

inland in California, and also in southern Oregon, the prevailing species are the western yellow pine and the sugar pine. In the moist Puget Sound region, the red or Douglas fir predominates, mingled with cedar, which is employed for shingles.

**194. Fisheries of the West.** San Francisco has succeeded New Bedford as the headquarters of most of the whaling vessels still afloat, which hunt in far Northern waters. The Oregon and Puget Sound waters swarm in season with salmon,



From Forestry Map issued by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, 1908

FIG. 108. Irrigated lands in the West.



Courtesy of U. S. Reclamation Service

FIG. 109. Opening of the first irrigation canal, Truckee-Carson project, in Nevada,  
the first work completed by the Reclamation Service.

which are taken by nets, traps, and wheels driven by the current. Fish hatcheries are now necessary to maintain the supply. Canned salmon is the principal fishery product exported from the United States. (Fig. 131.) The leading canning centers are Astoria, Ore., at the mouth of the Columbia, and Seattle, Wash.

**195. Irrigation in the West.** Though the West as a whole is rugged in surface, there are vast tracts of fertile soil, especially in the broad valleys between the Sierras and the Coast ranges, also on the upper Columbia, and in numerous intermontane basins such as the Big Horn, North, Middle, and South parks, San Luis Valley, and Salt Lake Basin. The soil is indeed exceptionally fertile, because not leached



Courtesy of Southern Pacific Ry.

FIG. 110. *Irrigating a field, Pajaro Valley, California.*

of its soluble parts by rain; but throughout much of the section, water must be brought to the land or there will be no harvest. (Fig. 110.) For this reason the Federal Government has set aside the proceeds of land sales in the arid states as an irrigation fund, and has established a highly efficient Reclamation Service to carry on the work. (Figs. 108 and 109.)

It is estimated that over 50,000,000 acres in all, situated in valleys and along the foot of mountains, can be irrigated and thus transformed from desert to garden. (Fig. 111.)

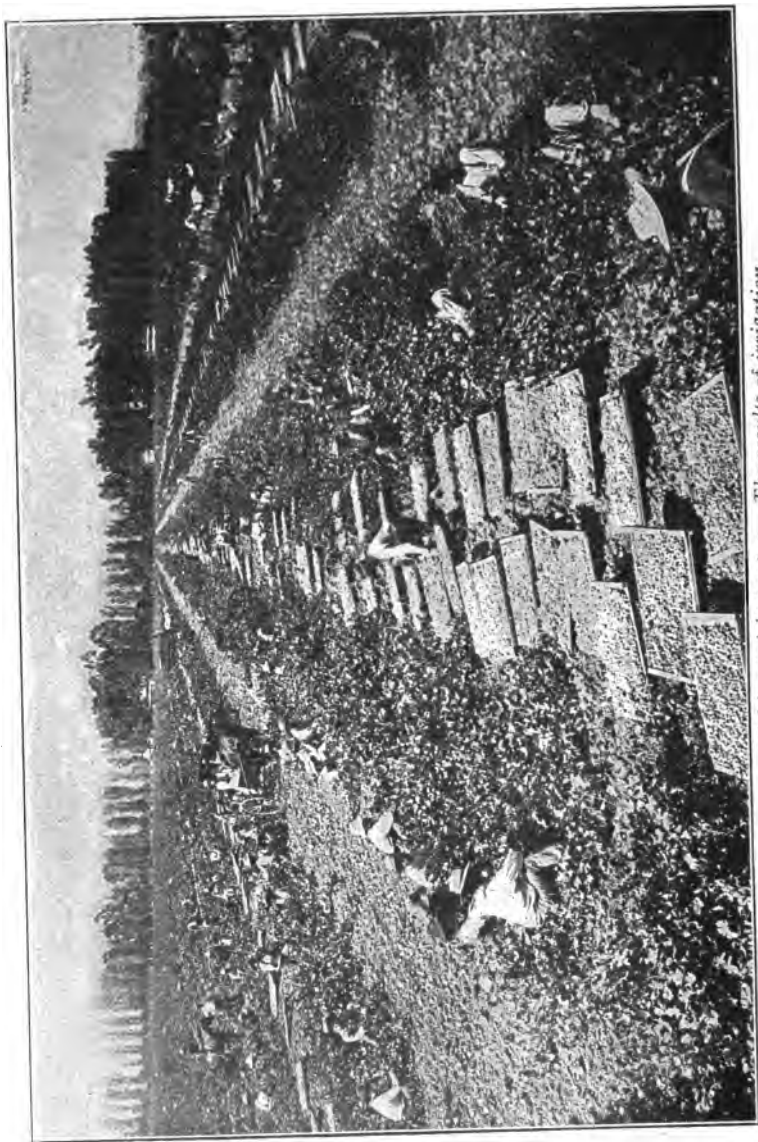


FIG. 111. *Picking raisin grapes. The results of irrigation.*

The current of rapid streams, and the power secured by the erection of gigantic reservoir dams, can even be used to lift water onto the uplands. Irrigation will therefore mean the creation of many densely-peopled farming communities separated by arid regions. It will stimulate mining by providing cheaper food. Finally, it will cause the growth of manufacturing and commercial cities, wherever mechanical power and transportation facilities are most available.

The possibilities of irrigation are especially interesting along the Colorado—the American Nile—which in its lower course flows practically on a ridge through a region very like Egypt in climate, and lacking only water to rival it in fertility. This district includes the Imperial Valley of California, filled to unknown depths with fine river-borne soil.<sup>1</sup> (Fig. 112.)

**196. Dry Farming in the West.** East of the Rockies, most of the rain falls in summer, owing to the draft of air up the Mississippi Valley at that season (§155). In recent years, it has therefore been found possible to grow certain drought-resistant crops in the Great Plains, without irrigation. Such are Kafir corn, a kind of millet (sorghum); milo, another millet grown in the dry Southwest; and especially durum wheat, which has already become an article of export to the Mediterranean countries and forms a considerable part of the total wheat crop of the United States. (Fig. 114.)

West of the Rockies the rain, coming from the Pacific, falls chiefly in winter. Much of the soil, moreover, is underlaid by clay which is almost impervious to water. These two facts are taken advantage of in a new type of dry farming which seems capable of great development. (Fig. 113.)

In some places, the streams which descend the hillsides in winter are diverted onto the fields, where the water is stored in the sub-soil. This practice of winter irrigation enables

<sup>1</sup>The Imperial Valley is the end of the Gulf of California which was cut off by the delta of the Colorado, advancing from the east; and then dried up, leaving salt (Fig. 122) deposits in the lowest part, called Salton Sink. This is 287 feet below sea level.

In 1905 the Colorado at flood cut a channel into Salton Sink, again creating an inland sea.

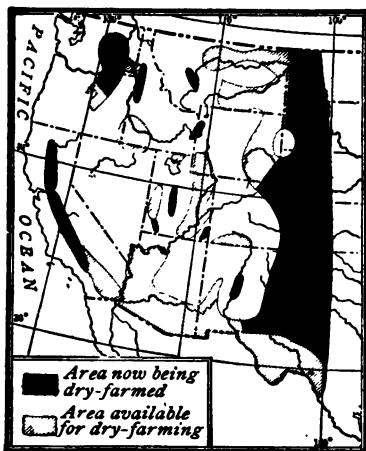
crops to be grown yearly. Where such streams are not available, it is possible to obtain a crop every other year by storing the rains of two winters in the soil and keeping the surface covered during the intervening summer with a dust-mulch to



FIG. 112. *Relief map of the lower Colorado Valley.*

check evaporation. This method, which would not be possible if the rain fell in summer (for it would then at once evaporate) enables wheat and some other staple crops to be grown with ten or twelve inches of rain a year.

**197. Agricultural Products of the West.** The leading crops of the West are grain and hay. The principal cereals grown are wheat and barley. In California, barley takes the place of corn (which needs a moister climate) as a food for stock. The grain fields are mostly in the broad valleys of the Pacific slope and in the Columbia basin around Spokane. Owing to the dry summers the grain in most districts dries on the stalk so thoroughly that it can be cut, threshed, and sacked by one machine (Fig. 115), thus economizing labor and leaving the straw in the fields to fertilize the soil. Vegetables are also important, especially potatoes and sugar beets, besides lima beans in southern California.



Dep't. Agriculture, Div. of Statistics, Bul. XX.

FIG. 113. *Dry-land areas.*



FIG. 114. *Dry-land farming. Districts producing durum wheat.*

Heavy freight charges on bulky commodities have, however, discouraged grain farming. In Oregon some of the best soil is occupied by hop yards (Fig. 116); and on all parts of the Pacific slope the farmers have turned their attention largely to fruit (Fig. 117), since the invention of the refrigerator car. In the aggregate value of her fruit crop, California is unrivaled. Temperate





*a. Plowing.*



*b. Planting wheat.*



Courtesy of Holt Mfg. Co.

*c. Combined harvesters which cut, thresh, and sack the grain, in one operation.*

**FIG. 115.** *Farming by steam on the Pacific slope.*

orchard fruits, such as peaches, apples, and plums (prunes), even exceed in value the subtropical fruits, such as oranges, lemons, olives, and figs. Grapes, yielding raisins and wine, are third in rank. (Fig. 111.) Nut growing, especially almond and walnut culture, has also become a distinct industry. (Fig. 117.)

The date palm has been successfully introduced in the desert regions of southern California and Arizona. (Fig. 118.) It needs an average summer temperature of at least 70° F., and one month of 80° F. The drier the air the better the date palm thrives, yet its roots must have abundant moisture. It is thus emphatically the tree of the desert oasis. (Fig. 21.)



FIG. 116. *Irrigated hop yard on the Pacific slope.*

**198. Metallic Products of the West.** The fierce rush over seas and deserts which followed the discovery of gold in California, the growth of cities almost over night, and the peopling of a state within three years, are matters of history.

Gold is still the principal mineral product of the Pacific slope. (Fig. 119.) The gold-bearing gravels, forming a belt twenty to sixty miles wide along the western foothills of the Sierras, were originally panned by hand. This form



a. *Tent in position for fumigation with poisonous gas to kill insects in fruit trees.*



Courtesy of Bureau of Plant Industry

b *Almond harvest.*

FIG. 117. *The fruit industry in California.*

of placer mining, requiring no machinery, was the poor man's opportunity. Later came hydraulic mining, which was checked by law because it filled up rivers and spread sand over agricultural lands in the lower valleys. Now gold dredges run by electric power from the Sierras and floating in lakes of their own creation, are eating their way back and forth through the land, working over the gold-bearing gravel down to bed rock. (Fig. 120.)

With the rise of vein mining, however, nearly all the Cordilleran states became producers of the precious metals.



Courtesy of Dept. of Agriculture

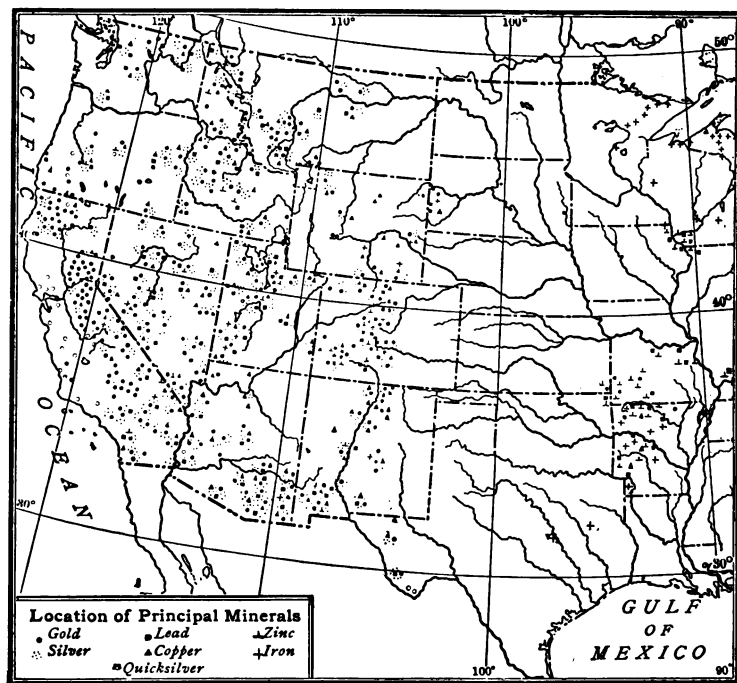
FIG. 118. *Young date orchard near Tempe, Arizona.*

Colorado held the first place at the Twelfth Census, having the richest gold district in the United States around Cripple Creek, and the principal silver district around Leadville.

Mercury, the only metal fluid at ordinary temperatures, is mined extensively at New Almaden, Cal.; lead in the Cœur d'Alene district of Idaho; copper in Arizona and Montana. Butte is the greatest copper city in the world. Abundant deposits of tungsten have also been located in Colorado and Arizona. Iron is widely distributed, the largest output being in Colorado, though the richest iron deposits in the West are in southern Utah, especially Iron County.

The western mountain states all depend chiefly on the ores "dug from central gloom." Farms and ranches exist there to feed the mining camps. It is, moreover, through the products of its smelters that this region enters into the commerce of the world. Shaler even surmises that in the future as many men will toil here in the dark recesses of the mines as work upon the surface of the earth.

**199. Other Mineral Products of the West.** Coal underlies considerable areas along both flanks of the Rockies, and smaller districts on the Pacific slope. Unfortunately, most of the coal fields near salt water are rather small and scattered, while those in the Rocky Mountain region are dependent on transportation by rail. (Fig. 70.)



After U. S. Geological Survey

FIG. 119. *Location of principal metallic deposits in the West.*

The coal is all of late origin, and mostly lignite. But in parts of Colorado and Washington it has been transformed,



Courtesy of the Bucyrus Co.

FIG. 120. *A modern gold dredge at work.*

by heat and pressure during the upheaval of the mountains, into bituminous coal of coking quality; and in certain small districts of Colorado and New Mexico, near lava flows, it has even been changed into anthracite. Colorado, holding first place in coal and iron west of the Mississippi, has become the Pennsylvania of the West.

Important petroleum fields have been tapped in several states. The most productive is in southern California, where, owing to the total lack of coal, the crude oil (Fig. 121) is of the greatest importance as fuel. In 1904, for the first time, the region west of the Mississippi produced over half of the petroleum in the United States.

When petroleum is long exposed to the air, the lighter parts evaporate, leaving ozokerite, a natural paraffin used for candles, or asphaltum used for pavements. The largest output of asphaltum is in California, though more extensive deposits are found in Utah. An artificial asphaltum is also made in California by distillation of petroleum.

The substances left by evaporation of salt water are widely distributed in the West, especially gypsum. Salt occurs

chiefly near Salt Lake and in California (Fig. 122); borax, in the most arid districts, such as Death Valley.

Precious and semi-precious stones occur in several districts: turquoise in New Mexico and Arizona, whence the Indians obtained their supplies; sapphires in Yogo Gulch, Mont.; topaz, beryl, and tourmaline near San Diego, Cal.; and a whole petrified forest, containing agate and chalcedony, near Holbrook, Ariz.

**200. Manufactures in the West.** Manufactures in the West are mostly neighborhood industries, the products being consumed near at hand. They are somewhat protected from outside competition by the high freight rates from other sections; but by the same means most of them are prevented from finding a larger market.

In the mountains, the smelting of ores is the leading industry: for example, at Butte, Mont. It is also important at



Courtesy of the U. P. Ry.

FIG. 121. Oil wells and derricks in the Bakersfield district, California.

Seattle, near the principal Pacific coal fields. Colorado has developed a considerable iron and steel industry, notably



Courtesy of Prof. J. E. Chamberlain

*FIG. 122. Salt piles in the Salton Sink before the Colorado rose and flooded it. As water came to the surface of the sink and evaporated, it left a layer of salt which was frequently scraped into piles and hauled away and as often renewed. (Fig. 112.)*

at Pueblo; and steel ship building has made some progress on the coast, especially at San Francisco, despite the lack of coal and iron in the vicinity. The mining machinery made in Denver and Los Angeles is known in many parts of the world.

The Pacific coast cities are concerned chiefly with food-stuffs and lumber. Measured by the value of products as reported by the Twelfth Census, meat packing is the leading industry in Seattle, that being the Pacific outlet of a large range country east of the Cascades; flour milling in Spokane, the "Minneapolis of the Far West," and likewise in Stockton and Sacramento, all situated in the most productive wheat (Fig. 125) districts; sugar refining in San Francisco, which



employs California beet sugar and Hawaiian cane sugar; lumbering (Fig. 123) in Tacoma and Portland, situated in the



Courtesy of Welster & Co.

FIG. 123. *Timber raft on the Columbia ready for towing to San Francisco. The logs are piled into a deep frame shaped like a ship in order to ride the waves.*

humid, forested district. The canning industry, using fruits in California and fish on the Columbia and Puget Sound, is also of importance.

Dependent on the herds and flocks are the leather-tanning industry in California and the manufacture of woolen goods which has begun in the Columbia and Puget Sound country.

Another condition favorable to manufactures, besides the abundance of raw materials, is the existence of water power on both flanks of the Cordilleran Highland; notably, at Great Falls, on the Missouri; at Colgate, near the foot of the Sierras, whence the electric current is carried to Oakland and San Francisco; at Spokane, the Dalles, the Cascades, and Oregon City, on the Columbia system; and on many of the streams flowing into Puget Sound.

**201. Transportation Facilities of the West.** The West, being in the main a lofty table-land, has few inland water ways. The rivers entering San Francisco Bay are, indeed, navigable for some distance; below Stockton and Sacramento they carry considerable traffic. The one water way of real commercial importance, however, is the Columbia system, navigable by seagoing vessels to Portland on the Willamette (110 miles) and by river steamers to Lewiston on the Snake River, except for one break at the Dalles where a canal is being built around the rapids.

The railways in the West consequently hold the power of commercial life and death. Moreover, railway construction is unavoidably expensive there, because of the rugged surface and great elevation of the mountain passes. The lowest summit level on any Pacific railroad is about double the

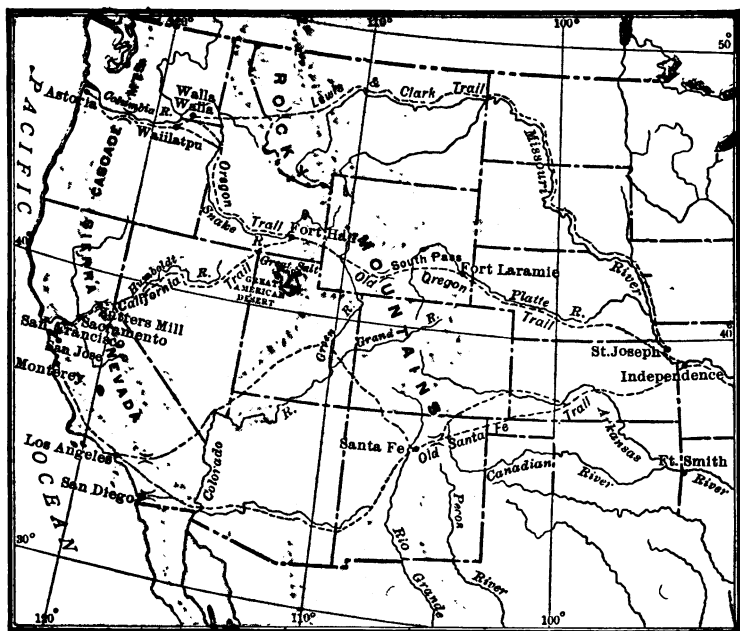


FIG. 124. *The early highways to the Pacific. (Compare Fig. 61.)*

highest elevation on any railway crossing the Alleghenies. The result of these conditions is such high freight rates as seriously to limit many industries.

**202. Inland Commercial Centers of the West.** Denver, the one great city of the plains, is mountain born, having been at first merely a stagecoach station and outfitting headquarters for mining camps. It has now become the commercial



Courtesy of Great Northern Ry.

FIG. 125. *Sacked wheat at Waterville, Wash., waiting shipment down the Columbia to Portland.*

and financial center of the entire Rocky Mountain region, to which it is the central gateway. More than a dozen lines of railways enter its stations.

On the vast plateau between the Rockies and the Sierras, the principal commercial center is Salt Lake City, reached from the East by a number of railways,<sup>1</sup> while from it lines

<sup>1</sup>The Union Pacific and the Denver & Rio Grande (Gould line), built; the Denver, Northwestern & Pacific under construction.

radiate to Butte, Portland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. Spokane holds a somewhat similar position in the upper Columbia Basin.

**203. Seaports West of the Coast Range.** The Pacific coast is singularly straight and unbroken, with mountains rising directly from the sea. Such a coast line is in general unfavorable to commerce.

San Diego, on a small but secure harbor, sheltered by a sand bar—the famous Coronado Beach—would be the natural outlet of Arizona and the Southwest, were it not for the Coast Range which rises just behind it. As matters stand, it pursues largely “the business of pleasure” as a seaside resort; though a railway has been undertaken through the mountains to Arizona.

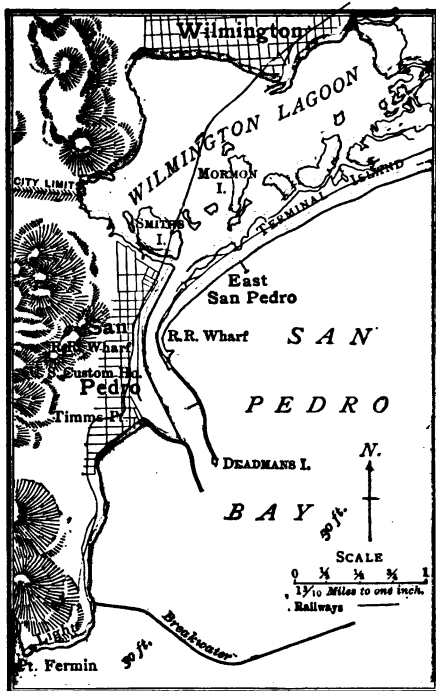
In like manner Eureka, on Humboldt Bay, has been practically limited by the Coast Range to handling redwood lumber from the adjacent mountains, for which it is the principal port of shipment; but railway connection with the interior is now assured.

Los Angeles, the “City of Angels,” lies on the seaward slope of the Coast Range, but opposite a low pass or gap (the San Bernardino, now traversed by three lines of railway) which leads over into the Imperial Valley; this in turn opens opposite the Gila Valley, forming a natural route toward the Gulf of Mexico. Thanks to this situation, which in effect eliminates both Coast Range and Sierras, and to a climate as mild as that of southern Italy, Los Angeles has become the business and residential center of the Far Southwest.

Like Athens and Florence, Los Angeles stands a few miles inland, having been founded without thought of sea-borne commerce. For ocean traffic it depends upon an artificial harbor at San Pedro protected by a 9,000-foot government breakwater and inclosing an inner bay called Wilmington Harbor. (Fig. 126.) Three railways extend to San Francisco, one along the sea and two through the great San Joaquin Valley.

**204. Seaports that Pierce the Coast Range.** The Coast Range is pierced by navigable waters at only three places in the United States: San Francisco Bay, Columbia River, and Puget Sound. On these are consequently the great Pacific ports, which handle the bulk of American commerce with the Orient.

San Francisco has a harbor larger and more easily accessible than that of New York. It became important, in the first



place, through the discovery of gold in the Sacramento Valley, and it profits most from trade with Hawaii, Samoa, Australia, and the Philippines. San Francisco is now the terminus of four trans-continental railways,<sup>1</sup> and it is the commercial metropolis of the Pacific slope. Moreover, just as the Pacific cable released (1903) oriental commerce from tribute to the overland telegraph, so the Panama Canal will release trans-continental commerce from dependence on the railways.

**FIG. 126. Artificial Harbor at San Pedro.** Portland is a river port like New Orleans; and now that the troublesome bar at the mouth of the Columbia has been conquered by jetties, and the rapids in the river are passed by canals, Portland

<sup>1</sup>The Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe coming up from the south; the Union Pacific and the Western Pacific (the new Gould line) coming by way of Salt Lake. (Fig. 61.)

will no doubt play a somewhat similar part in commerce. In fact, it has the added advantage that the Columbia runs with, in place of across, the general course of commerce. Portland is already a great grain and lumber port. It is, moreover, reached by railways from San Francisco and Puget Sound; while from the east, branches of the Union Pacific and of the Great Northern descend the Columbia Valley.

The spacious and secure harbors on Puget Sound, however, are the chief rivals of San Francisco for oriental trade. The principal ports, from the mouth toward the head of the Sound (117 miles) are Bellingham, Everett, Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia. On Puget Sound are the terminals of the three northern transcontinental lines: the Great Northern, Northern Pacific, and the new extension of the Chicago, Milwaukee, & St. Paul (1909).

The Puget Sound ports are favored by the fact that they stand opposite the lowest, narrowest, and least sterile part of the Cordilleran Highland. They also profit most from the development of Alaska; and the shape of the earth is in their favor, bringing China and Japan nearer to Puget Sound than to ports farther south.

#### XIV—THE UNITED STATES IN THE MARKETS OF THE WORLD

*"There be three things which make a nation great and prosperous: a fertile soil, busy workshops, and easy conveyance for men and goods from place to place."—Lord Bacon.*

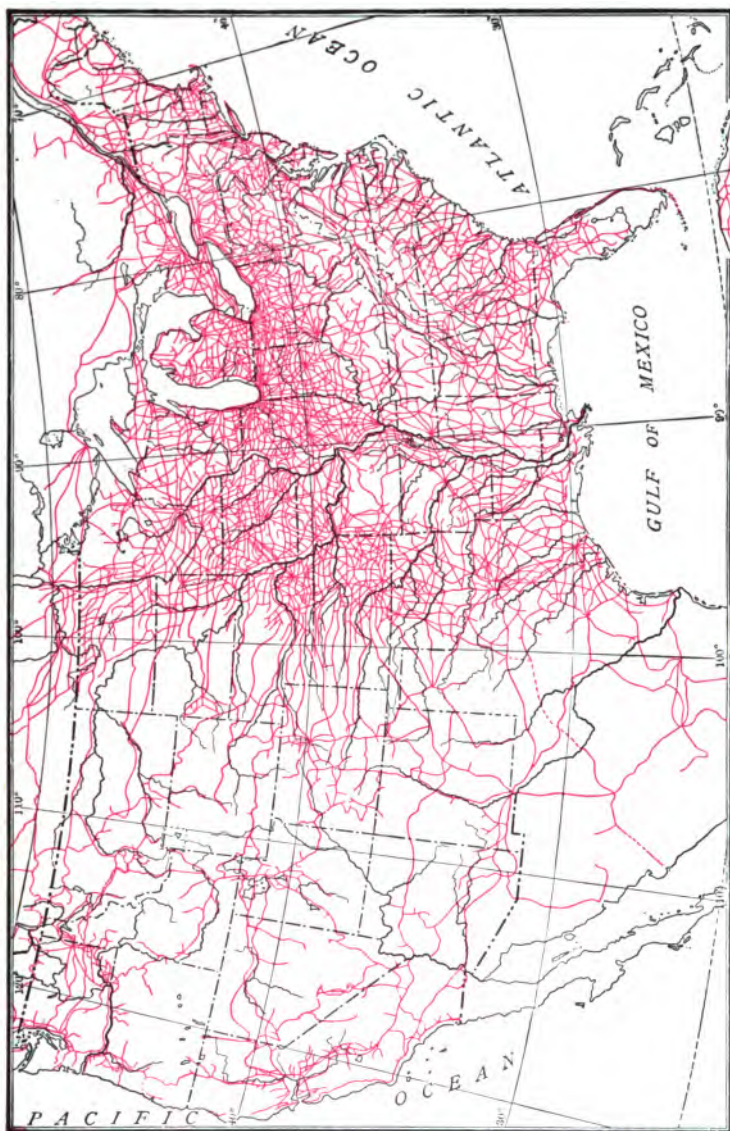
**205. The Foundations of Commerce.** Commerce is rooted in the people and the soil. "A nation's commerce is born of its industry and is part of its struggle for the necessities, the comforts, and the luxuries of life." (Webster.)

The people of the United States are active and adventurous by right of inheritance; for only those of such a disposition were willing to brave the uncertainties of a New World. Moreover, frontier life, in conflict with untamed nature and savage foes, bred inventiveness and self-reliance. Finally, self-government has powerfully promoted general education and intelligence.

The natural resources of the country match the spirit of the people. No other equal area in the world has such a combination of fertile soil, abundant minerals, navigable waters, excellent harbors, and temperate climate. And no other great nation, except Russia, fronts on the two greatest oceans.

Everything goes to show, as De Tocqueville long ago observed, that the United States seems formed by nature to become the first commercial nation of the world. The achievement of this high destiny is, however, reserved for the future.

**206. Staple Products of the United States.** All new countries of necessity first exploit the crude resources of sea, forest, field, and mine. They must have food and raw materials before they can undertake manufactures. There is consequently a natural order in the development of industry and commerce.



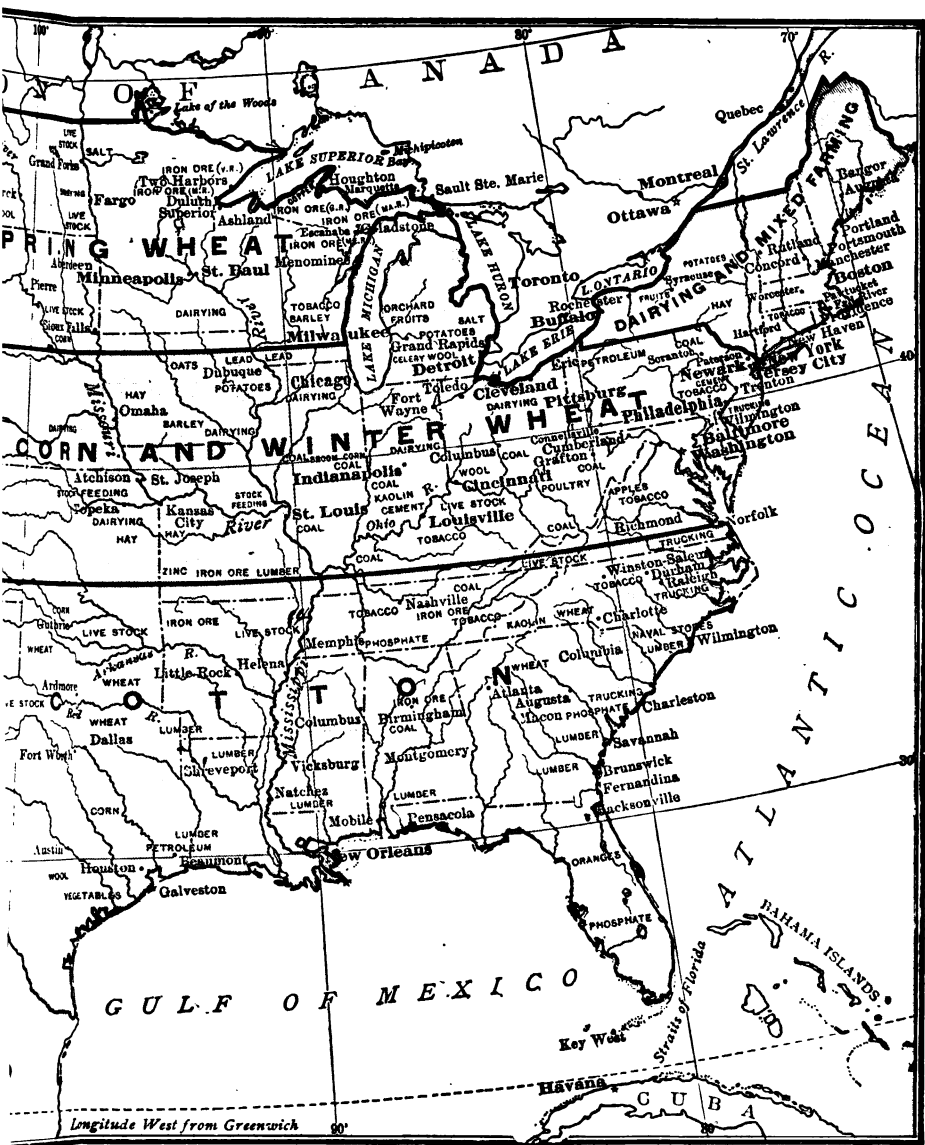
Copyright, 1900, by Rand McNally & Company

FIG. 127. Density of railways in the United States





FIG. 128. Areas in the



Copyright, 1910, by Rand McNally & Company  
(From Report of the Industrial Commission)

United States producing commercial staples.



The United States first entered foreign markets as an exporter of fish and timber from the North Atlantic states, tobacco and cotton from the South Atlantic states, grain and animal products from the Mississippi Valley. The area of largest production has indeed shifted westward with the march of population; but these raw products still make up the bulk of American exports. (Figs. 128, 130, and 134.)

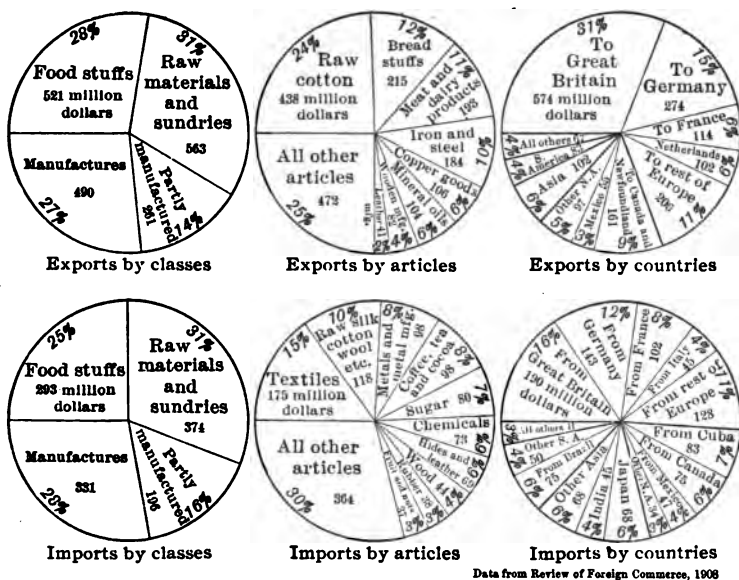


FIG. 130. *Foreign commerce of the United States. Totals in 1908 (millions of dollars): exports, 1,835; imports, 1,194.*

**207. Fish and Furs.** Fish were for colonial New England very nearly what tobacco was for Virginia; and a codfish over the Speaker's chair in the State House at Boston still symbolizes the importance of the fishing industry to Massachusetts. In the country at large, the fisheries employ nearly a quarter of a million workers, supporting upward of a million people.

For the last half century, however, the Atlantic fisheries have been slowly failing. The exports of fish, mainly canned

salmon from the Pacific coast, are now less than the imports. (Fig. 131.) It is important that the fisheries be preserved, if

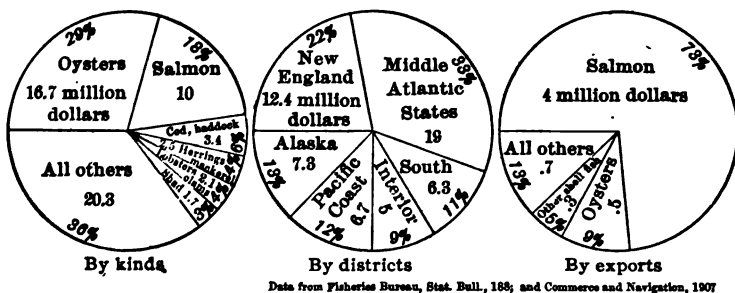


FIG. 131. *Fishing industry of the United States. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): catch, 56.7; exports, 5.5.*

possible, not only as a source of sea food, but also as a nursery of able seamen and rugged virtues.<sup>1</sup>

The exports of furs, including among other kinds seal and sea-otter pelts from Bering Sea, are greatly exceeded by the imports from Canada and the cold parts of Europe and Asia.

Curiously enough, sealskins are commonly sent to London for finishing, and then repurchased at a greatly increased

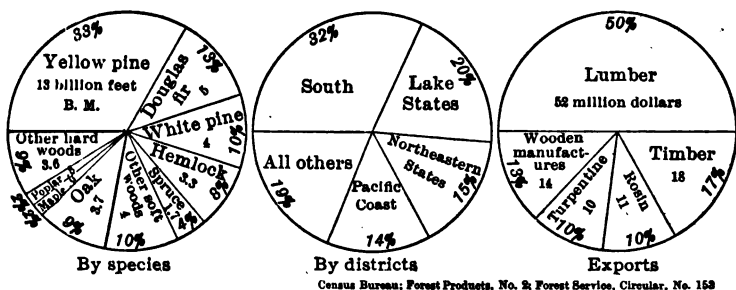


FIG. 132. *Lumber industry of the United States. Totals in 1907; cut, 40 billion feet. b. m. (valued at 666 million dollars); exports, 105 million feet.*

price. This illustrates how relatively undeveloped many American industries are.

<sup>1</sup>See Kipling, *Captains Courageous*.

**208. Forest Products.** Forest products (Fig. 132) almost equaled in value all the crude mineral products of the United States, as shown by the Twelfth Census.

The exports of forest products consist mainly of yellow pine, turpentine, and rosin from the South, together with redwood and other lumber from the Pacific coast.

The imports, which exceed the exports, consist largely of tropical "jungle" products. Under this head are included rubber and other gums, cabinet and dyewoods, cork, and

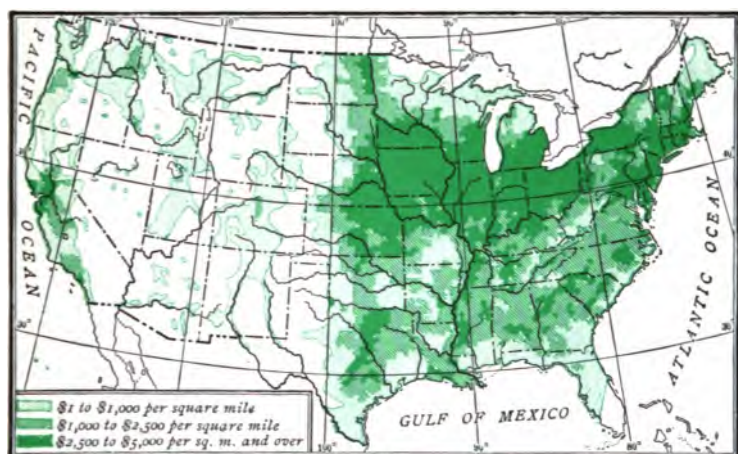


FIG. 133. Value of all farm products per square mile in the United States.

tanning agents, notably sumac from Italy and gambier from the East Indies. In addition, there is a growing importation of lumber and wood pulp from Canada.

**209. Live-stock Products.** Domestic animals yielded, according to the Twelfth Census, products amounting to nearly half of all farm products. Hogs, dairy products, and beef cattle were each valued at more than \$400,000,000 a year; while even the industrious hen was worth almost four times our annual output of gold. Sheep, horses, and mules also materially swelled the census totals.

However it may prove in the future, the introduction of

steam, gasoline, and electricity has not as yet materially affected the commercial importance of draft animals.

The exports of meat and other animal products on the whole greatly exceed the imports, going to all the densely populated countries of Europe, especially to Great Britain. There is, on the other hand, a large import of raw materials of animal origin, notably hides, wool, raw silk, feathers, and bristles. The imports of hides alone amount to more than \$50,000,000 a year.

**210. Crop Products.** The crops (Figs. 133 and 134) of the United States, as ascertained at the Twelfth Census, were worth nearly \$3,000,000,000, of which a third (32.3 per cent) was fed to live stock. One year's crops would thus

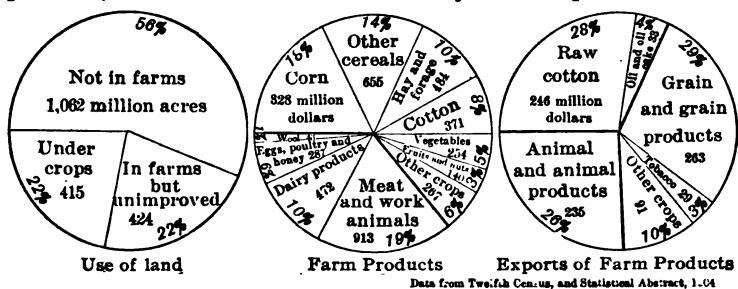


FIG. 134. *Agricultural industry of the United States. Totals: contiguous land area, 1,901 million acres; farm products at Twelfth Census, 4,717 million dollars; exports in 1900, 897 million dollars. The land not in farms comprises mountains, swamps, desert regions, roads, and cities.*

almost pay for the Civil War. By far the most important crop, measured both by acreage and value, is corn. In fact, the corn crop of the United States almost equals in value the three crops next in rank—cotton, wheat, and hay.

For export purposes, however, cotton is far and away the most important crop. The United States, indeed, furnishes the bulk of the world's cotton. (Figs. 84 and 85.) Next to cotton the principal export crops are wheat, milled and unmilled; corn, mostly unground; tobacco; and fruits, chiefly apples and prunes. (Fig. 134.)





Yet within a few years the United States will be largely dependent on Canada for timber; the stock industry of the

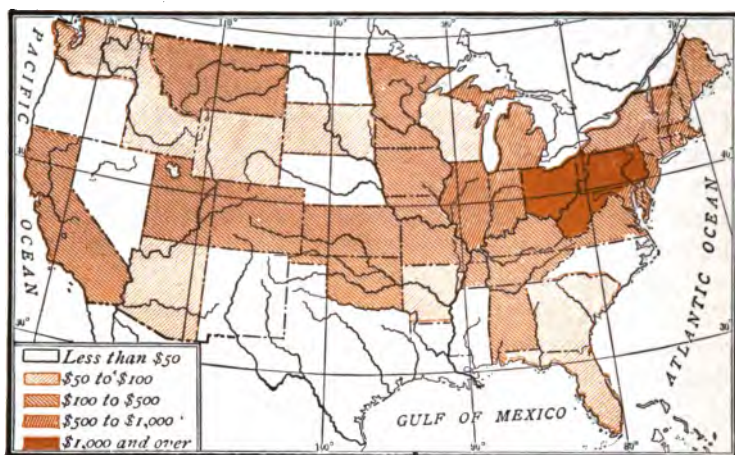


FIG. 137. *Value of minerals raised per square mile in the United States.*

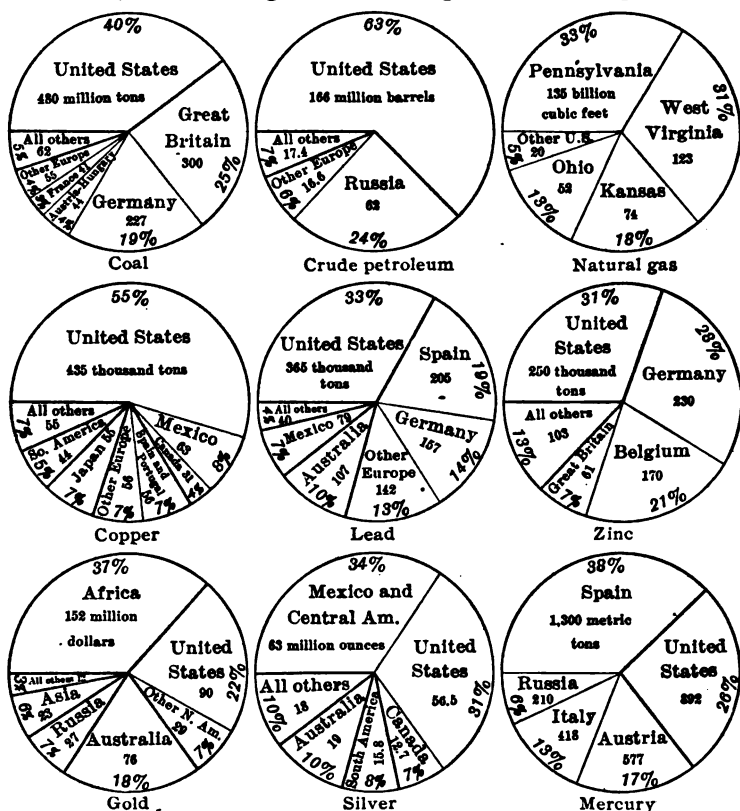
West has already received a check through the overstocking of the ranges; wheat exports show a marked tendency to decline; and cotton has not kept pace of late years with the growth of population. Farm products in the aggregate still constitute, it is true, the bulk of American exports, but twenty years ago they formed a still larger proportion.

This relative decline in agricultural exports is due to the law of decreasing returns in agriculture (§77), operating in the face of an unprecedented increase of population. (Fig. 136.) It therefore cannot be permanently checked, however intensively the soil may be cultivated.

**212. Mineral Products.** Agriculture and mining, the one exploiting the surface and the other the interior of the earth, are the two primary industries on which all others depend.

The mining industry of the United States has advanced, since 1880, with such giant strides as to distance both Great Britain and Germany. (Fig. 137.) This development has been furthered

by the use of the steam shovel in open-cut mines, and of power machinery for cutting and handling minerals in pit mines.



Data from Mineral Resources, 1907, and Report of Director of Mint, 1908

FIG. 138. World production of minerals. Totals, latest available year: coal, 1,209 million short tons (2,000 lbs.); crude oil, 262 million bbl. (42 gals.); natural gas, 404 billion cubic ft.; copper, 795 thousand short tons; lead, 1,095 thousand short tons; zinc, 814 thousand short tons; gold, 19,860,620 oz. (410 million dollars); silver, 185 million oz. (122 million dollars); mercury, 3,397 metric tons (3.5 million dollars). (See also Figs. 282, 283, and 284.)

The United States now holds first place, by a wide margin, in the output of mineral fuels, producing more than a third

of the coal, more than half the petroleum, and nearly all the natural gas used in the world. The United States is likewise first in the great industrial metals, iron, copper, lead, and zinc; also, in phosphate rock. (Fig. 138) The United States is also well to the front in the output of gold, silver, and mercury, besides various minor minerals. (Figs. 137 and 138.)

The exports of crude minerals, on the other hand, consisting mainly of coal, phosphate rock, and petroleum, are largely exceeded by the imports of minerals not produced here in sufficient quantities (Fig. 139).

The true value of minerals, however, as of other raw materials, is only realized when they serve as the basis of

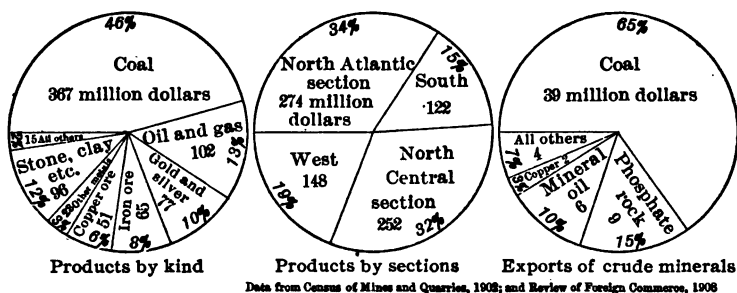


FIG. 139. *The mineral industry of the United States. Totals (millions of dollars): product at mine, 796; export, 60.*

manufactures. A pound of unwrought iron is worth only a few cents; made into watch springs its value is multiplied many thousand fold.

**213. Manufactured Products.** The American people have a natural mechanical bent; in fact, "the American loves a machine as an Englishman loves a horse." Already the value of American manufactures is nearly double the value of all farm products. The United States is rated by some as the greatest manufacturing nation in the world.

Compared with Europe as a whole, however, which forms a substantially equivalent area, the United States is clearly in the "extractive" stage of industry, producing chiefly food and

raw materials. Even a major part of the articles that are classed in the United States Census' reports as manufactures have undergone but little elaboration. Such articles are rough lumber, breadstuffs, meat, mineral oils, and many other commodities. Europe has thus far retained its preëminence in manufactures, despite the great resources of the United States, owing to an abundant supply of skilled labor and to superior educational facilities for industry and commerce.

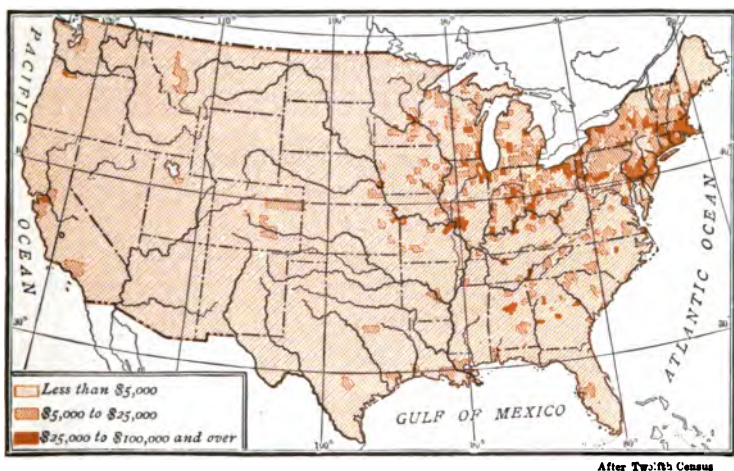


FIG. 140. *Value of manufactures per square mile in the United States.*

Nevertheless, the proportion of manufactures among American exports has largely increased since 1885; and this increase extends not only to articles such as agricultural implements, encountering little competition abroad, but also to some lines of competitive manufactures, notably iron and steel products, copper wares, including electrical machinery, and leather goods, especially shoes. (Figs. 140, 141, and 142.)

**214. Why Foreign Markets for Manufactures are Necessary.** Since agricultural exports tend to decrease as population becomes more dense, and in any event manufacturing nations

are the more prosperous and powerful because not compelled to struggle ever harder against the law of decreasing returns



FIG. 141. Growth of export trade of the United States in manufactures.

(§77), the future commercial prosperity of the United States manifestly depends on the

export of manufactured goods. (Fig. 142.) The United States must therefore obtain and maintain foreign markets for manufactures, or undergo a gradual "process of suffocation," which will reduce the teeming millions of American workmen to poverty and lower the American standard of living to the European level.

**215. Where Markets for Manufactures May be Found.** Markets for manufactured goods are to be found in the future, not in Europe, which buys chiefly food and raw materials and, moreover, controls most of the very markets the United States seeks to acquire; but rather in the American Possessions, Canada, Mexico, South America, the Orient, and other countries which largely buy manufactured goods. (Table 6.)

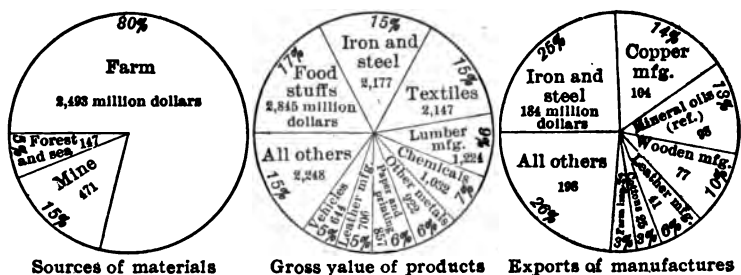


FIG. 142. Manufacturing industries of the United States. Totals (millions of dollars): materials, 3,141; gross products, 14,802 (Census of Manufactures, 1905); exports, 751 (Review of Foreign Commerce, 1908).

It is in these same countries, moreover, where industry is relatively undeveloped and comparatively little capital has

been accumulated, that considerable investments of American capital have been made, especially in mines and railways, and still larger investments are certain in the future.

These countries, therefore, despite the present preponderance of Europe in American trade, are the ones in which the United States has the greatest interest, as markets for American manufactures and as fields for the investment of American capital.

**216. The Conservation of Natural Resources.** The resources of nature are indispensable to support the life of man, yet most of them are exhaustible.

The fisheries have long been declining; practically every merchantable tree in the United States has been counted; the highest grade Superior iron ores are largely exhausted, and the life of the remaining deposits is calculated at fifty years; the older natural gas and petroleum fields are clearly failing; and if the use and waste of coal shall continue to increase as during the last fifty years, the reserves of coking coals in the United States can hardly outlast the twentieth century. Even the soil is suffering severely, not only from continuous cropping in staple crops like cotton, wheat, and corn, but perhaps even more from soil wastage, nearly a billion tons a year being swept into the streams and eventually carried into the sea. As Shaler puts it. "of all the sinful wasters of man's inheritance on earth, and all are in this regard sinners, the very worst are the people of America."

Such being the situation, what can be done about it?

Clearly, we cannot cease to utilize the resources of nature, for on them our life and our civilization depend; but if private interests can be in a measure subordinated to the public interest, it is possible to check the waste of these resources.

For one thing, by handling the remaining forests on scientific principles, and adopting a systematic policy of reforestation, much of the soil wastage may be avoided and the streams preserved for irrigation, navigation, and power purposes. (Figs. 8 and 143.)

Secondly, by substituting water transportation for carriage by rail, wherever practicable, the drain on the coal and iron mines may be greatly diminished. Rivers require no rails, nor do steamboats consume as much fuel per ton of goods moved as do locomotives.

Thirdly, by exporting manufactured goods, which represent a large value in relatively small bulk, rather than foodstuffs,



Courtesy of U. S. Forest Service

FIG. 143. *Reforestation of cut-over lands; successful natural seeding from long-leaf pine.*

raw materials or coal, the drain on both soil and mines may be lessened. It is indeed true that England's export of coal furnishes heavy outbound cargoes to offset the importation of foodstuffs and raw materials, when otherwise many ships would go in ballast. Full cargoes both ways tend to lower freight rates, which is one secret of England's success in foreign commerce; nevertheless every cargo shipped abroad hastens

the day of famine prices for coal at home. The need of conserving natural resources thus affords another and perhaps the greatest reason why the future prosperity of the United States depends on the export of manufactured goods.

Fourthly, more economical methods may be used in manufacturing. Thus, compared with Germany, where all by-products are saved, coke making in the United States is a crude and wasteful process. Fortunes are lost—not to speak of natural resources wasted—every year in the clouds of gas arising from the Connellsville coke ovens; and little use is made in this country even of the coal tar obtained in the process, notwithstanding it is the source of aniline dyes and many other chemical products.

These and other economic reforms depend partly on aroused public sentiment, partly on the spread of technical education, and partly on changes in the law which will bring the interest of the owner and the interest of the public more nearly into harmony. The problem as a whole is too vast and complex for discussion here<sup>1</sup>, but this much is clear: so long as the owner is taxed on the standing tree and the ore or coal in the mine, he will continue to make haste and waste, in order to get out what he can before the taxes consume his profits. On the other hand, if he were taxed only on the tree when cut and the ore or coal when mined, he would have every reason to use care and economy. The conservation of natural resources must therefore begin with a reform in the law of taxation.

<sup>1</sup>See the reports of the National Conservation Commission, the Inland Waterways Commission, and the Proceedings of the White House Conference of Governor's (Washington, 1909).



## XV—AMERICAN EXPANSION IN THE PACIFIC

*"The Pacific Ocean, its shores, its islands, and the vast region beyond will become the chief theater of events in the world's great hereafter."*  
—W. H. Seward.

**217. The Character of Alaska.** Alaska (Fig. 129) corresponds in position and climate to the Scandinavian Peninsula. Along the sea in the southeast the temperature seldom goes below zero. At Sitka, for example, the winter average (32.5° F.) is practically the same as at Washington, D. C. The interior, however, is drier, with warm summers and very cold winters.

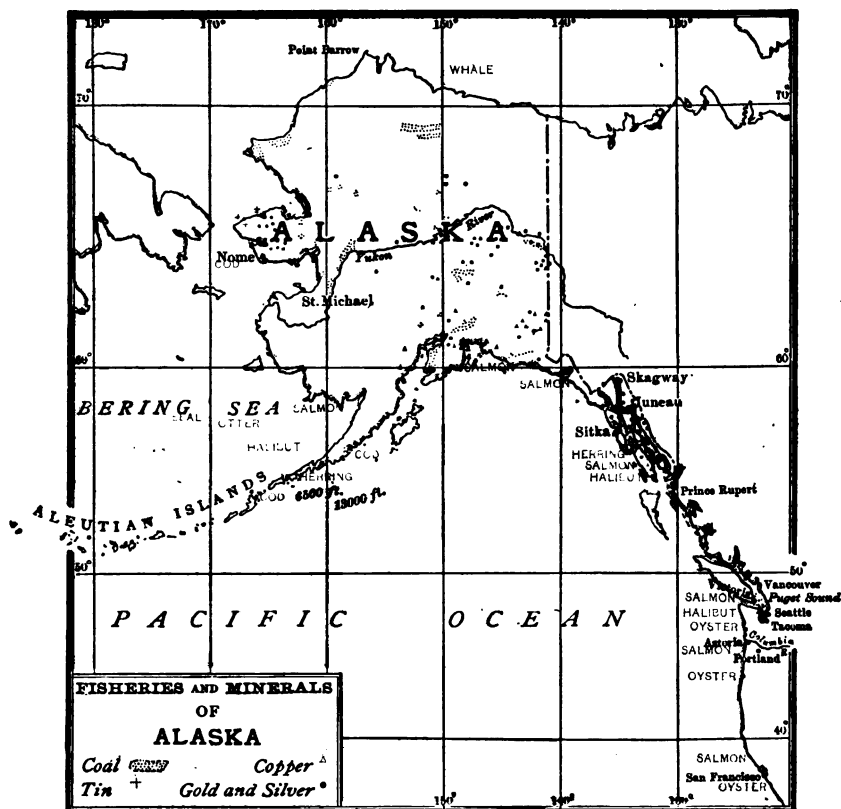
The Coast Range of Oregon appears in Alaska in places as a string of islands, while the range representing the Cascades rises about one hundred miles inland. The Rockies also curve to the westward some distance south of the Arctic.<sup>1</sup> Most of the interior between the Alaskan and the continuation of the Rocky mountains is drained to the westward by the Yukon, a river larger than the Mississippi.

Alaska nearly equals in size the region east of the Mississippi and south of the Great Lakes, while in length of coast line, it exceeds the United States.

**218. Fisheries and Forests of Alaska.** Furs first attracted the Russians to Alaska, and are still of some commercial importance. The catch has, however, so far declined that fur farms have been established on several of the islands, containing the rare black and silver fox. Fur seals, which frequent the Pribilof Islands at certain seasons, have been almost exterminated by Canadian and Japanese hunters, called "pelagic sealers," who shoot male and female indiscriminately on the high seas, leaving the young on the islands to perish miserably of starvation. The sea otter, yielding the most expensive of all furs, is now very rare.

<sup>1</sup>Brooks' *Geography and Geology of Alaska* (U. S. Geological Survey).

Alaskan waters are among the most valuable fishing grounds in the world. The salmon pack is over half that of the United States; the catch of halibut is much larger than in the Atlantic, some being shipped even to New England; and immense cod and herring banks are almost untouched. (Fig. 144.)



Based on U. S. Government Reports

FIG. 144. Fisheries and minerals of Alaska.

Heavy forests cover the coast east of Kodiak Island, where the southwest winds encounter lofty mountains. There is also a smaller and more scattered growth of trees on the slopes up to 2,000 feet elevation as far north as the Yukon.

These forests furnish timber for the mines. On the coast, where accessible to water transportation, they are also of probable commercial value.

**219. Mineral Resources of Alaska.** Gold has, however, proved the great magnet to populate the country, recalling the "days of '49'" in California. Quartz mining is carried on around Juneau, where the Treadwell mine feeds the largest stamp mill in the world; placer mining prevails in the Yukon, Fairbanks, and Nome districts. The gravels are commonly washed by powerful streams of water driven against them (Fig. 145); but steam shovels and gold dredges have also begun



U. S. Geol. Survey, Bulletin, No. 328

**FIG. 145.** *Hydraulic elevator on Glacier Creek, Alaska. Water is pumped to higher level in order to give pressure for hydraulic mining.*

to be employed. (Fig. 120.) Tin is found on Seward Peninsula in commercial quantities; and there are immense copper deposits on Prince of Wales Island, and in the Copper and Susitna valleys, which may prove the richest in the world.

Besides metals, Alaska has abundant coal, both near the coast and on the Yukon, ranging from anthracite through an intermediate class of coking bituminous coal to lignite. The

coal in the Matanuska and Bering River fields is the best on the Pacific slope. Gypsum is worked near Juneau (now the



Courtesy of the Rev. Sheldon Jackson

FIG. 146. *Freighting with reindeer in Alaska.*

capital of the territory), and marble on Prince of Wales Island, both conveniently located for shipment by sea.

**220. Agricultural Possibilities of Alaska.** Furs and gold have filled Alaska with a floating population in search of fortune; only agriculture can establish homes. Moreover, if foodstuffs must continue to be imported, only the cream of the mineral deposits can pay expenses.

On the wide tundra or moss-covered plains in the northwest, beyond the Yukon, reindeer have been introduced by the Government as a means of saving the natives from starvation, now that game has become scarce. These promise to be of great value both for food and freighting purposes. (Fig. 146.) Unlike other domestic animals, they can "rustle" for their food, which they dig up from beneath the deepest snows.

The grass-covered islands, and seaward slopes from Kodiak Island west, are admirably adapted for pasturage. The Agricultural Experiment Station has found that cattle and sheep both thrive there.

The example of Norway, Sweden, and Finland, similarly circumstanced as to climate, indicates that agriculture should

be possible in Alaska. The sun shines in summer eighteen to twenty-two hours a day, setting at ten and rising before three on the lower Yukon (Fig. 171); and behind the Coast Range there is little cloudy weather, especially in the Tanana and Copper valleys. The temperature consequently reaches 90° F with a summer average well above 50° F. The long hours of sunshine, combined with an unfailing supply of moisture from the thawing earth beneath, force vegetation to an extraordinarily rapid growth. It has been proved by experience at various places along the Yukon that barley, potatoes, and all common vegetables will grow at least as far north as the Arctic Circle.<sup>1</sup> At Rampart, indeed, grain, including wheat, has matured every year since the Agricultural Experiment Station was established there.

Alaska, with coal and food products, is an altogether different country from the "frozen waste" that some of the books still describe. To encourage settlement, Congress has made the homestead unit in Alaska 320 acres.

**221. Commerce of Alaska.** The exports (Fig. 147) of Alaska are chiefly gold, fish (mainly salmon), and furs; the imports, foodstuffs, machinery, and mining supplies, mostly from the United States. Between Alaska and the United States there is entire freedom of trade. The commercial centers are

62%	28%	5%	5%
Gold 17.5 million dollars	Salmon 8.1	Other furs and skins 1.4	All other 1.4

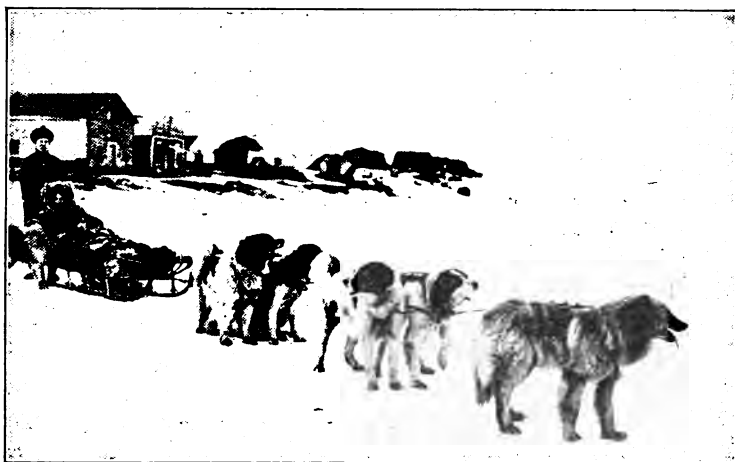
Data from Report of Governor, 1908

FIG. 147. *Exports from Alaska. Totals in 1908 (millions of dollars): exports, 28.41; imports, 15.9.*

Skagway, at the head of Lynn Canal or inlet; St. Michael, near the mouth of the Yukon; and Nome, the principal town on Seward Peninsula. Skagway is reached from Puget Sound by a sheltered "inside" passage, behind the fringe of

<sup>1</sup>Especially at Holy Cross Mission and Eagle. See McLain, *Alaska and the Klondike*, and the *Reports of the Alaska Experiment Stations* (Department of Agriculture).

islands, almost as calm as a pond. It offers the shortest route to navigable water on the Yukon, which is reached by a railway only 112 miles long, but with heavy grades over the mountains (2,880 feet). At Nome, the supply point of a rich gold-mining district, goods and passengers must be landed through the surf at heavy cost. Both Bering Sea and the Yukon River are as a rule icebound from October till June.



Courtesy of The Mining World

FIG. 148. *Traveling by dog sled in Alaska.*

**222. Transportation in Alaska.** Transportation is chiefly by water in summer, and by dog sleds (Fig. 148) in winter; for in Alaska the "freeze up" is the magic power which turns the marshy tundra into a solid road and makes of every stream a highway into the wilderness. The Government has built a pack trail from Valdez at the head of Prince William Sound to the Yukon, and a beginning has been made in constructing roads for wheeled vehicles; but the general lack of wagon roads and the resulting cost of transporting supplies prevents many rich mines from being worked.

There are two short mining railways on Seward Peninsula; a third extending from deep water on the Tanana to Fairbanks

and the adjacent camps; and another built to haul fish, on the southern coast. Of more general interest and importance are the all-American lines projected from the south coast to navigable water on the Yukon System. Of these, the one from Seward will follow the Susitna Valley toward Fairbanks, crossing the divide at Caribou Pass (2,300 feet); another from Cordova on Orca Bay will go up the Copper Valley and over Mentasta Pass (2,900 feet) toward Eagle on the Yukon. Both the terminal ports are always ice free, but in other respects Seward has the better harbor, as deep and calm as an Alpine lake.

The Alaskan islands, stretching farther away to the west of San Francisco than San Francisco is from Maine, contain many admirable harbors, notably Dutch Harbor, a port of call on the way to the Yukon and Nome. Strange as it may seem, these islands lie near the "great circle" route from Puget Sound to Japan, and, offering sites for coaling and naval stations, they give the United States no mean advantage in the struggle for commercial and naval control of the Pacific.<sup>1</sup>

**223. The Hawaiian Islands.** The natives of Hawaii came, according to their traditions, from Samoa. They were converted (1820) by New England missionaries, who founded the American influence that finally led to annexation (1898). There would thus seem to be truth in the adage that "trade follows the missionary and the flag follows trade."

There are few sights in the world more beautiful than the Hawaiian Islands (Fig. 149), a group of emerald gems, rising abruptly from the deep sea, with towering volcanoes still marked at times by flashes of fire and pillars of smoke. Eight of the group are inhabited, having an area (6,449 square miles) nearly equal to New Jersey.

The latitude is that of Cuba; but the Japan current which is cooler than the land, lowers the temperature several degrees (Honolulu 74° F.), rendering it almost ideal, seldom lower than 52° or warmer than 92° F.

<sup>1</sup>See Rear Admiral Bradford's article on *Coaling Stations for the Navy* (*Forum*, Feb., 1899).

The lowlands, being alluvial, are as a rule extremely fertile; but irrigation is often necessary on the lee or southwestern side of the mountains, where the rainfall at sea level is, on the average, only thirty-two inches. This is inadequate in a warm country, where evaporation is very rapid. The uplands are cooler, moister, and less fertile. As in the lesser Antilles, the ports and towns are mostly on the side sheltered from the prevailing northeast trade wind.

**224. Natural Resources of Hawaii.** The mountains are still partly forested, though wasteful lumbering and herds of wild cattle and goats roaming at large have ruined much valuable timber. The adjacent lowlands have therefore suffered increasingly from drought, while the streams are less useful for irrigation. Recently the situation has grown so serious that several forest reserves have been established.

Fishing is now largely in the hands of Japanese. The catch is consumed in the island. Stock raising is of some importance on the uplands, especially above the timber line (6,000 to 8,000 feet) where cattle, sheep, and horses all do well. Three of the smaller inhabited islands are private sheep and

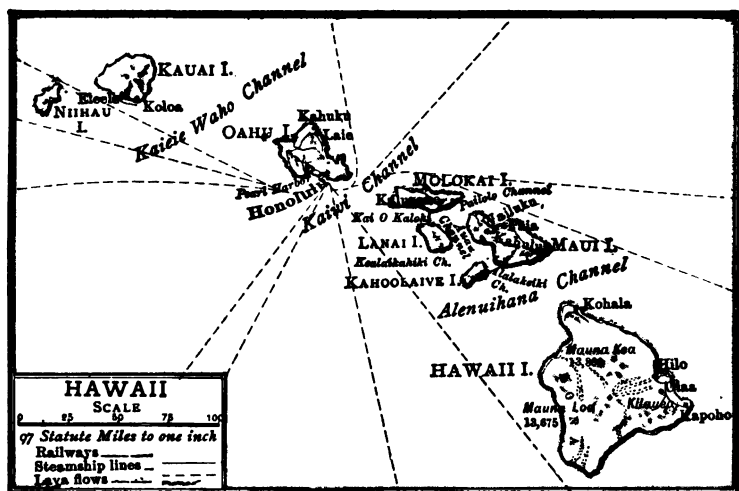


FIG. 149. *The Hawaiian Islands.*



cattle ranches. Owing to the rugged surface, only a small part (2.1 per cent) of the land is under crops. The great commercial crop of Hawaii is sugar cane (Fig. 150), grown mostly on the lowlands (under 500 feet), though on the windward slope it ranges up to 2,000 feet elevation. It is irrigated on the southern slopes but grows without irrigation on the northern. Rice and taro, also irrigated, are the staple food crops. Taro is a root crop which takes the place of potatoes in the tropical islands of the Pacific.

Other crops, as yet of minor importance but full of promise for the future, are pineapples and sisal fiber, which flourish on dry lowlands; cocoa and bananas (the bananas shading the cocoa), vanilla, and rubber, all needing a moist climate and giving the best results under 500 feet elevation; coffee, tobacco, and vegetables on the uplands. Coffee does best on the drier side above 2,000 feet elevation, while tobacco thrives in the cloud-belt on the windward slope. Pineapples, bananas, and coffee have already reached a commercial basis. Most of the pineapples are canned for export. One of the canneries,

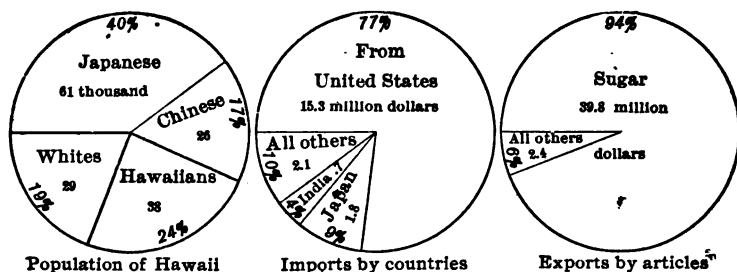


Courtesy of Professor H. W. Henshaw

FIG. 150. *Gathering sugar cane in Hawaii.*

consuming 250 tons of fruit a day, is reputed to be the largest in the world, surpassing even the great canneries at Singapore.

**225. The Population of Hawaii.** The sugar industry has filled Hawaii with Asiatics (Fig. 151); and still the sugar



Data from Report of Governor of Hawaii, 1908

FIG. 151. Races and commerce of Hawaii.

Population at Twelfth Census, 154,001. Commerce in 1908 (millions of dollars): exports, 42.2, practically all to the United States; imports, 19.9, mostly foodstuffs and manufactures.

planters are not satisfied. Their laments about the "scarcity of labor" mean, what such laments usually mean the world over, a scarcity of people willing to work for a few cents a day (§74). Such "scarcity of labor" as this is a sign of a rising standard of living and therefore of real economic progress. On the other hand, only upland crops such as coffee and tobacco can support an American population. There are estimated to be 350,000 acres at 2,000 to 5,000 feet elevation where coffee would thrive.

The preponderance of Asiatics in Hawaii can hardly be viewed with indifference. In all countries the race which furnishes the laborers tends more and more to crowd out the ruling race; for it is a fact observed in many lands that the so-called "upper classes" die out in time unless constantly recruited from the laboring classes or by immigration. Already the Asiatics in Hawaii have made their way into many occupations formerly confined to the whites.

**226. The Commerce of Hawaii.** Internal transportation is well provided for by highways, several short railways, and by coasting vessels. The several islands are connected by a wireless telegraph system, and the Pacific cable makes two

landings in the archipelago. Honolulu, the capital, is a modern city, with telephones, electric light, and electric cars.

Hawaii enjoys free trade with the United States, which consequently supplies almost the sole market for Hawaiian products and furnishes the bulk of Hawaiian imports. (Fig. 151.) The importance of Hawaii for sea-borne commerce depends upon its unique position. It is the "crossroads of the North Pacific" and therefore a natural mid-ocean supply station. Its value is further enhanced by isolation; only small coral islands lie within a radius of 2,000 miles. (Fig. 195.) Moreover, it has in Pearl Harbor (Fig. 152) an ideal location for



FIG. 152. Honolulu and Pearl Harbor.

a coaling and naval station. Naval vessels cannot cross the Pacific without recoaling; hence Hawaii in American hands guards the Pacific coast of the United States better than a dozen battle ships.<sup>1</sup>

When the Panama Canal shall be opened, Hawaii will thus become its western gateway.

**227. American Samoa.** The beauty of the Samoan Islands, clothed in the richest verdure to the mountain tops, the charm of their ever-balmy climate, the native courage, courtesy, and generosity of their people, have drawn from all beholders the most glowing tributes. Our youthful dreams of an island in the far southern seas where it is always summer and the burdens of life are laid aside, here seem to be realized. It was in Samoa that Robert Louis Stevenson, after wandering the world over, fixed his home and chose his last resting place; and his writings<sup>2</sup> have given it fame throughout the world.

In the division of the islands (1898), Germany claimed the lion's share, including the two larger islands, while the United States obtained the five small islands at the east of the chain,

<sup>1</sup>Mahan, *Interest of America in Sea Power*.

<sup>2</sup>Footnote to *History*, *Vailima Letters*, etc.

having an area of seventy-seven square miles and a population of about 4,000. The largest American island, Tutuila, is seventeen by five miles in extent.

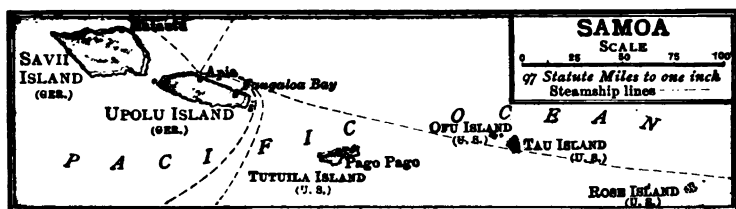


FIG. 153. Samoa.

The natives produce some copra, the dried meat of the coconut, for export. The real value of American Samoa, however, consists in its harbor and its location. The harbor of Pago Pago, a crater now invaded by the sea, is deep, landlocked, and easily made impregnable to attack. (Figs. 11 and 24.) Here a steel pier and coal sheds have been erected for the Navy. From Samoa the island chains radiate and the Polynesian peoples originally spread; and most of the commercial routes in the South Pacific pass close at hand. Samoa is, in fact, the "crossroads of the South Pacific." (Figs. 153 and 195.) Pago Pago is already a port of call on the steamship route from San Francisco to Australia; and it lies on the probable route from Sydney to the Panama Canal.

Unfortunately, however, the surrender to Great Britain (1884-1892) of all the islands<sup>1</sup> lying between Hawaii and Samoa, most of which had been American for very nearly half a century, has rendered an all-American cable to Pago Pago

<sup>1</sup>Known as Guano Islands under a law passed in 1856. About seventy groups in all were occupied by Americans, including Fanning or America group, where the British cable now lands; the so-called Central Pacific Sporades; and the Manahiki, Union, and Phoenix groups.

Even Jarvis (or Howland) and Nantucket (or Baker) islands, where Commander Davis formally raised the American flag (1858), are now marked "British red" on some British maps; while the United States Department of State disclaims all knowledge as to their status. The Marquesas Islands, over which Captain David Porter raised the American flag during his famous cruise in the "Essex" (1813), were subsequently annexed by France (1842).

practically impossible. Yet naval operations have long since become in large part "an affair of coal and cables."

**228. Wake and Guam.** Wake Island, a coral reef barely rising above the sea, was annexed by the United States (1899) as a possible cable station; but Midway Island, a part of the Hawaiian chain, was finally used for this purpose.

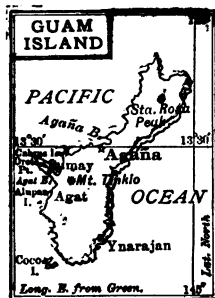


FIG. 154. *Guam.*

Guam (Figs. 154 and 155) is the largest island (thirty-two by nine miles) between Hawaii and Manila, having an area of 210 square miles and a population estimated at 9,000. It is well wooded and fertile, exporting some copra. Under intelligent cultivation, it might readily be made an important source of cocoa. Provision has already been made for an agricultural experiment station there.

Guam was seized (1898) during the Spanish War, as a way station on the route to Manila. It is the cable center of the western Pacific, having the American cable to San Francisco and Manila, the German-Dutch cable to Yap and Menádo, and another cable to Japan. It is also a coaling station for the Navy; and is governed, like Samoa, by a naval officer.

Unfortunately, Guam has only an exposed roadstead where a naval vessel, the "Yosemite," has been lost, and where an artificial harbor could be constructed only at heavy expense. This is the more regrettable as the Caroline Islands, stretching across the Pacific for 2,500 miles just south of the route to Manila (Fig. 159), which might just as well have been occupied by the United States, contain a number of excellent harbors.<sup>1</sup> After the close of the Spanish-American War this group<sup>2</sup> was sold by Spain to Germany (1899).

<sup>1</sup>See Rear Admiral Bradford (*Forum*, Feb., 1899).

<sup>2</sup>Embracing perhaps fifty small clusters of islands, with an area of 560 square miles and a population of 35,000 to 40,000. The Marianas, aside from Guam, containing perhaps 270 square miles more, were also sold to Germany at the same time.

**229. The Philippine Archipelago.** It was indeed a strange chance, if chance it was, which brought the great Philippine archipelago, named in honor of a Spanish king, beneath the American flag (1898).

The Philippine Islands (Fig. 196) are scattered over a region almost equal to that extending from Lake Superior to the Gulf of Mexico, and from Lake Michigan to the Atlantic; while their land area (115,026 square miles) exceeds New England and New York. Lying wholly within the Tropics, their climate is



Courtesy of N. B. Farwell, U. S. N.

FIG. 155. *Transportation by carabao cart in Guam.*

warm the year round (Manila, 81° F.) and very moist, especially in summer and on slopes exposed to the northeast trade wind (§51). In northern Luzon, however, around Baguio, the summer capital, there are extensive highlands 4,500 to 7,000 feet above the sea, where the temperature ranges from 40° F. to 80° F., and the climate is "like that of Vermont in early summer." These highlands are covered with grass, oaks, and pines; and it is here, if anywhere, that the white race

will make its home in the Philippines. Tropical highlands, however, lack one thing necessary to the full vigor of northern people—a tonic winter.

**230. The Inhabitants of the Philippines.** The natives number upward of 7,000,000, divided between the Negrito, or dwarf negro, and the Malay races; and further subdivided into twenty-four tribes speaking mutually unintelligible languages.

Of these tribes eight, containing the bulk of the population, are Christian; fragments of several tribes are Mohammedan (Moros); and the others are heathen.

The mass of the people even in the most civilized tribes are densely ignorant; very few (10 per cent) even speak Spanish after three centuries of Spanish rule. Their standard of living is naturally low and their wants are few and simple. If they are ever to come in touch with the modern civilized world and develop an important commerce, they must learn English. An efficient system of public schools using English has therefore been established; and though it is admittedly a risky experiment in the Tropics, a very large measure of self-government has been granted, including an elective Philippine Assembly.

**231. Fisheries and Forests of the Philippines.** Nearly every native is said to be more or less a fisherman; everywhere fish and rice are the staple foods. The Sulu Sea also yields considerable quantities of pearls and pearl shells.

Over half the land is forest-clad, bearing many valuable tropical cabinet woods. Most of the forests are state property, and a scientific forestry system has been established. The natives make large use of the bamboo, a gigantic tropical grass sixty to one hundred feet in height, for building; the leaves of the nipa palm for thatching their huts; the rattan, which sends up thin whip-like shoots of great length, in place of ropes; the betel leaf and areca nut for chewing, in lieu of tobacco; while the fermented sap of various palms serves as wine. Of commercial importance are dammar and copal resin, both used in varnishes; rubber and gutta-percha, found

in the islands south of Negros; sapan wood, yielding a yellow dye; and the oil distilled from ylang-ylang flowers, which serves as the base of fine perfumes.

### 232. Agricultural and Mineral Products of the Philippines.

The surface is mountainous; but the soil, being largely volcanic, is very fertile. Most of the people live from the land; though only a small part (less than 5 per cent) is tilled, and the methods of tillage are very crude. (Fig. 156.) For this reason much rice must be imported, coming largely from French Indo-China.

For local use the leading crops are rice in the lowlands, corn in the uplands; besides sweet potatoes and fruits such as the banana and mango. For export purposes the principal



Fernisation of Philipp ne Photo Co.

FIG. 156. *Plowing rice field with carabao in the Philippines.*

crops are Manila hemp (abacá), grown chiefly from Manila south; sugar cane, also in the middle islands, especially Negros; tobacco in the Cagayán Valley of northern Luzon; and the cocoanut everywhere near the sea. The Philippines have a monopoly of Manila hemp (Fig. 157), which is indispensable for the best ropes, and are the most important source of copra, from which cocoanut oil, used both in soap and in butter making,<sup>1</sup> is obtained. Crops of great promise are coffee on

<sup>1</sup>At Marseilles, cocoa butter goes under the names of cocoaline and vegetaline.



the northern highlands; cocoa and vanilla in sheltered lowlands having a close, moisture-laden atmosphere; and spices in the



Permission of Philippine Photo Co.

FIG. 157. *Shipping Manila hemp in original bundles.*

islands south of Negros, where cinnamon, nutmeg, and pepper grow wild and ought therefore to thrive under cultivation.

Manila cigars are the "Havanas" of the Orient. Exquisite hand-woven fabrics are made from the pineapple fiber (piña) and the maguey, a species of century plant. There are also some native ropewalks, manufacturing cordage of Manila hemp.

The mineral resources embrace gold and copper, especially in the northern highlands; rich iron deposits, and coal equal to the best on Puget Sound, both widely distributed. The "pines and mines" of the Benguet Highlands are attracting a considerable American population, which will doubtless develop other industries than mining, as happened in California.

**233. Commerce in the Philippines.** During the rainy season nothing can be moved on land except on mud sleds. These are drawn by water buffaloes, which are the principal work animals of the islands. Owing to the lack of transportation facilities by land, most of the population is crowded together near the sea or on navigable water ways.

When the Americans took charge, there was one railway 120 miles long, Manila to Dagupan, accompanied by a telegraph line. This road has now built important branches; and other roads have been begun on several islands. To protect navigation, the Insular Government maintains light-houses and coast-guard vessels. Finally, the Army has built a network (some 9,000 miles) of telegraph lines and cables connecting all parts of the archipelago. Most of these, as likewise the telephones, are now operated as a part of the postal service.

The Americans have also created modern machinery of exchange in the islands. The post-office operates a Postal Savings Bank; and, to rescue the natives from the clutches of Chinese and half-breed money lenders who charged twenty to forty per cent a month, the Government has established an Agricultural Bank, which loans money in small sums at reasonable rates. New Philippine coins have also been minted, the unit being the peso, worth fifty cents. It is based on the gold standard, and is as stable in value as United States money.

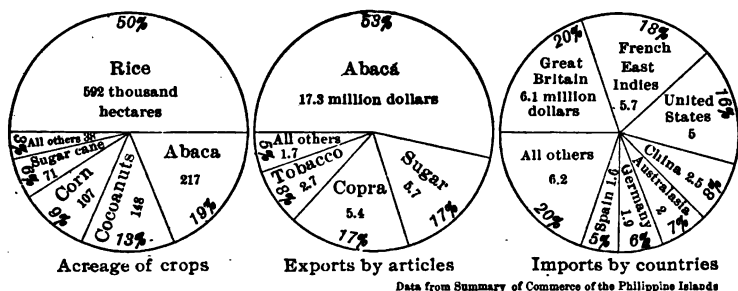


FIG. 158. *Crops and commerce of the Philippine Islands. Acreage at census of 1903, 1,173 thousand hectares (1 hectare equals 2.47 acres). Commerce in 1908 (millions of dollars): exports, 32.8 (31% to U. S.); imports, 31%, chiefly manufactures and rice.*

The exports are chiefly Manila hemp, sugar, copra, and tobacco; while the imports are, in the main, rice from the French possessions in Asia, and manufactures from Great Britain and the United States. (Fig. 158.)

To increase Philippine commerce, American or other outside capital must be invested so as to increase production. This is the more likely to occur since the Tariff Act of 1909 has established free trade between the Philippines and the United States.<sup>1</sup>

**234. Seaports of the Philippines.** The coast is extraordinarily indented. There are, indeed, over 3,000 islands,



FIG. 159. *The site of Manila.*

though only twelve of large size; but owing to the progressive rising of the land in parts of the archipelago, many of the harbors are shallow. The principal commercial ports are: Sulu and Zamboanga in the south; Cebú and Iloilo in the central islands, ranking respectively second and third in tonnage; Manila and Aparri, in Luzon. The principal port for foreign trade is Manila, at the mouth of the Pasig River, which gives access to Lake Bay. A quaint mediæval city but a few years ago, Manila, under American rule, has rapidly taken on a twentieth century aspect. As the bay is shallow and exposed, the Insular Government has constructed an artificial harbor where the largest vessels can lie alongside the docks in any weather. This harbor is of more than local importance because many commercial routes pass the mouth of Manila Bay. (Fig. 159.) In fact, a circle struck from Manila with a radius of 1,500 miles will include nearly every important city from Shanghai to Singapore.

When Dewey's guns in Manila Bay sounded the death knell of Spanish dominion, they thus at the same time gave to the United States an "empire on which the sun never sets," and unbarred to American commerce the Gates of the Orient.

<sup>1</sup>The following Philippine products are still dutiable in the United States: rice, sugar in excess of 300,000 tons, wrapper tobacco in excess of 300,000 pounds, filler tobacco in excess of 1,000,000 pounds, cigars in excess of 150,000,000, in any one year. These limitations, however are not of present importance.

## XVI—AMERICAN EXPANSION IN THE CARIBBEAN

*"The nation which controls the Isthmus of Darien is master of the world."*—Sir Walter Raleigh.

**235. Causes of American Expansion.** The West Indies belong by position and interest to the United States rather than to Europe; but only since the Spanish War have the American people turned their faces to the sea.

Thomas Jefferson, indeed, looked forward to the time when Cuba should become American; but after Florida had been acquired (1819), the American flag paused at tidewater for eighty years, until the West was won, the issue of slavery settled, and a continent subdued to the uses of man. Toward the close of the nineteenth century, however, the rapid increase of population in the United States, the approaching exhaustion of free land outside the arid belt, and the growth of export trade in manufactures, all showed that the age of isolation was passing. It is during such periods of apparent stagnation that the forces gather which dominate the next generation. And so in 1898 the time was ripe, though we knew it not. The same war which opened the gates of the Orient battered down the walls of the West Indies raised by Spain to secure a monopoly of their trade.

**236. The People and Government of Porto Rico.** Porto Rico was first colonized (1508) by Ponce de Leon, the same man who sought in Florida the fountain of perpetual youth. Though Porto Rico was less disturbed by revolts than Cuba, because smaller and more easily mastered, the American troops were received by the Porto Ricans (1898) with open arms.

In Porto Rico as in Cuba the white people are in the majority, while in other West Indian islands hardly one person in a hundred is white. This startling difference results from the fact that of all Europeans who have colonized the West

Indies, only the Spaniards have become acclimated so that they are able (or perhaps willing) to endure manual labor in



FIG. 160. *Porto Rico and its dependencies.*

the fields (§225). The poor whites (*Gibaros*) of Porto Rico are in large part peasant proprietors, a sort of "tropical backwoodsmen," while in Cuba the land is held in great estates.

Aside from the planter and professional classes, most of the people are entirely illiterate, with few wants and a rather low efficiency in labor; but a good system of public schools is now in operation. The language of instruction is increasingly English; but the island will no doubt remain Spanish-speaking. The government is substantially that of an American territory, except that customs duties accrue to the Porto Rican treasury. Between the United States and Porto Rico there is entire freedom of trade, except that all coffee imported into Porto Rico is taxed.

**237. Surface and Climate of Porto Rico.** Porto Rico (thirty-five by ninety-five miles in extent) is somewhat smaller than Connecticut. (Fig. 160.) The surface is rugged, reaching 3,609 feet elevation, but even the mountains are covered with a fertile clay soil. It is consequently the most highly-cultivated and most densely-peopled island of the West Indies, with the exception of Barbados.

The climate is of course tropical. The temperature varies but little throughout the year, San Juan having an average of 78.5° F. The rainfall is heaviest in summer and autumn,

as a result of the nearer approach of the equatorial belt of calms. It is excessive (120 inches) on the northern and eastern slopes, which are exposed to the full force of the trade wind, while irrigation is sometimes necessary for crops on the southern slope.

The cooler uplands and drier west have the largest proportion of white inhabitants. Mayaguez is the favorite residence of wealthy planters.

**238. Products of Porto Rico.** The mountains still bear patches of primeval forest containing cedar, ebony, and a non-fragrant variety of sandalwood. A National Forest Reserve has been established containing some of this primeval forest.

The higher slopes above 2,500 feet are largely cattle pastures; the middle slopes above 1,000 feet are occupied by coffee plantations, with some fields of upland rice, corn, and beans for local use. Owing perhaps to the fact that coffee is here planted at lower altitudes than in most tropical countries, it suffers unless well shaded. Tobacco also flourishes in the interior valleys of this zone, notably around Cayey, where it is grown to some extent under tents. The lower slopes and plains at the foot of the mountains grow sugar cane and a little sea-island cotton, while along the



Courtesy of Dept. of Agriculture

FIG. 161. *Branch of coffee tree with berries.*

shore is a fringe of cocoanut groves. Goats are everywhere, the goat being, so to speak, "the poor man's cow."

The growing of fruits, especially the orange, pineapple, and banana, is a very promising industry on the lower levels.

Coffee was the leading crop under Spanish rule; moreover, most of the island being mountainous, it is better adapted to coffee than any other crop. The Porto Rican coffee (Fig. 161) is of a very high grade; but, as a result of the Spanish War, it has now lost the Spanish, without gaining the American market. Coffee was furthermore the mainstay of the small white farmers in the uplands, while sugar cane, which has largely increased its acreage under American rule, means great

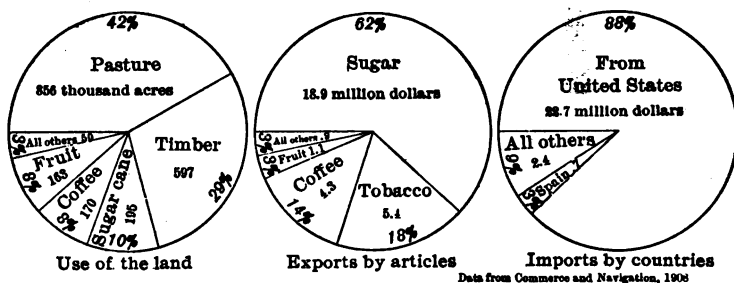


FIG. 162. *The crops and commerce of Porto Rico. Totals in 1908: land, 2.04 million acres; commerce (millions of dollars): exports, 30.6 (84% to U. S.); imports, 25.8, largely foodstuffs and manufactures.*

estates worked by negro labor. (Fig. 162.) If the white farmers are not to be destroyed or driven from the island, thus converting it into another Haiti, some means will have to be found, and that speedily, of saving the coffee industry from impending ruin.

Manufactures are limited in the main to cigars and cigarettes, rum distilled from molasses, and "Panama" hats.

**239. The Commerce of Porto Rico.** Porto Rico under Spanish rule "had attained the fullest possible development of the ox-cart and wooden-plow civilization." Any further advance consequently depends on modern machinery and means of transportation.

The Spaniards did, however, build one good military highway (Fig. 163), and the Americans have added a considerable



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FIG. 163. *Military road in Porto Rico—a macadamized highway from San Juan to Ponce.*

mileage of macadamized roads. There is now regular automobile service between San Juan and Ponce. These cities are also connected by a belt line of railway along the coast, and are provided with electric cars and electric lights. The multitude of rushing streams offer power sufficient, if utilized, to operate all the railways needed in the island, including electric lines from coast to coast.

The coast line of Porto Rico is singularly unbroken. Even the harbor of San Juan, the principal city, is small and dangerous to enter in rough weather, though securely landlocked. Ponce is an inland town, at the edge of the foothills opposite the lowest pass in the mountains, and its playa, or port, is poorly sheltered. Curiously enough, the best natural port in the island, Jobos, in the southeast, lies almost untenanted. San Juan has become an important port of call for steamers making the circuit of the Lesser Antilles; and, by reason of its exports of coffee and tobacco, it may become a



port of call between Europe and Panama, though located a little off the direct route which passes eastward of St. Thomas.

Porto Rico, moreover, affords an American foothold nearly a thousand miles east of Florida. It unfortunately lacks a good harbor fronting the Mona Passage into the Caribbean; but the dependent<sup>1</sup> island of Culebra—Stevenson's "Treasure Island," beloved of every boy—has in Deep Harbor (Enseñada Honda) a splendid port commanding the Virgin Passage to the east of Porto Rico, and serving as the American naval headquarters in the Caribbean.

**240. Relation of Cuba to the United States.** At the outbreak of the Spanish War (1898) Congress disclaimed by the Teller "self-denying" resolution any purpose to annex Cuba. The opportunity looked forward to since the days of Thomas Jefferson was thus put aside. The Platt Amendment, however, subsequently embodied in a treaty, established a virtual protectorate.<sup>2</sup> It also provided for the leasing to the United States of naval stations at Guantánamo, on the Windward Passage, and Bahia Honda, west of Havana. Guantánamo guards the route from all the Atlantic ports of the United States to Panama, while Bahia Honda commands both entrances to the Gulf of Mexico.

The motto on the seal of Havana—"The Key of the New World"—was thus no idle boast. By virtue of its position,<sup>3</sup> Cuba is of the greatest importance for the control of the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean, which together constitute the "American Mediterranean."

<sup>1</sup>Five other small islands were ceded with Porto Rico, the largest being Vieques or Crab Island.

<sup>2</sup>The provisions are in brief that the United States will not permit a foreign attack upon Cuba. In return for this protection, Cuba agrees to maintain sanitary conditions, to lease naval stations to the United States, and neither to alienate territory to any other nation nor to incur excessive debts which would cause international complications. The United States has the right to intervene if public order is seriously disturbed or if these promises are not kept. This right has already been exercised on invitation of the Cuban government, which found itself unable to suppress an insurrection.

<sup>3</sup>Mahan, *Interest of America in Sea Power*.

241. "The Pearl of the Antilles." Cuba (Fig. 164) is nearly a thousand miles long, and in land area slightly larger than Pennsylvania.

A range of low mountains traverses the west, a hilly belt continues through the center, while along the eastern end a lofty range rises abruptly from the sea. On the whole, the surface is fairly level and the soil exceedingly productive. By reason of its fertility, Cuba fully merits its Spanish title, "The Pearl of the Antilles."

The climate is similar to that of Porto Rico (§237), but slightly cooler (Havana, 77° F.) by reason of latitude.

Cuba was colonized by Spain a century before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth; and the white population is almost

FIG. 164. *Cuba.*

exclusively of Spanish descent. Americans have made several settlements in recent years and have acquired not a little landed property; but by far the largest immigration is still from Spain.

**242. The Products of Cuba.** Considerable forests still remain, producing mahogany, Spanish cedar, used in cigar boxes, and dye woods. The principal dye woods are fustic or mora wood, dyeing yellow; and logwood, yielding dark colors. The forests are largely in the eastern end, around Santiago.

The earliest colonial industry was cattle raising. This still prevails in the uplands of the east and center, wherever remote

from railways. Hides and other animal products are exported, including considerable honey and beeswax from wild bees.



FIG. 165. *Field of sugar cane with central mill in Cuba.*

For a century (after 1727) coffee, introduced by French settlers from Martinique, was the principal market crop; but other products proved more profitable and Cuban coffee now serves only local consumption, though the eastern mountains offer ideal conditions for coffee growing.

During the last century sugar cane has become the great staple crop of Cuba. In other islands the sugar industry has been ruined by the competition of European beet sugar, aided by government bounties; but in Cuba the rich limestone soils of the central provinces, where cane needs to be replanted but once in seven years, aided by modern machinery, have made good the unequal struggle against beet sugar. Cuba is by far the greatest exporter of cane sugar. (Fig. 278.)

Next to sugar, the leading Cuban crop is tobacco, which was apparently indigenous to the island. Here, as in most parts of the Tropics, tobacco is a winter crop, being planted in the autumn and cut in the early spring. The best quality, though not the largest quantity, is grown in a small district, some twenty by eighty miles in extent, on the southern slope west of Havana. This is the famous *Vuelta Abajo* tobacco.

Other crops of increasing value are bananas and cocoanuts

in the east, especially around Baracoa, and pineapples along the northern coast west of Havana, as also on the Isla de Piños. Oranges grow wild all over the island, while lemons from the eastern districts are equal to the best from Sicily.

Around Santiago are important mines of iron and manganese; also copper mines, which once had the largest output in the world. Along the northern coast near Cardenas are considerable deposits of asphaltum.

Manufactures in Cuba, as in Porto Rico, are limited, in the main, to tobacco, rum from molasses, and plaited straw hats.

**243. The Commerce of Cuba.** Wagon roads hardly exist in Cuba outside the cities. There are, however, more than 800 miles of plantation railroad, used in hauling cane to the mills for grinding. It is to these roads and these huge mills, costing a million dollars each, that the sugar industry of Cuba owes its continued existence. (Fig. 165.)

There are also upward of 1,500 miles of public railway, including a trunk line from Havana to Santiago with branches to the two coasts. Havana and other cities have in addition extensive electric lines run in part by water power.

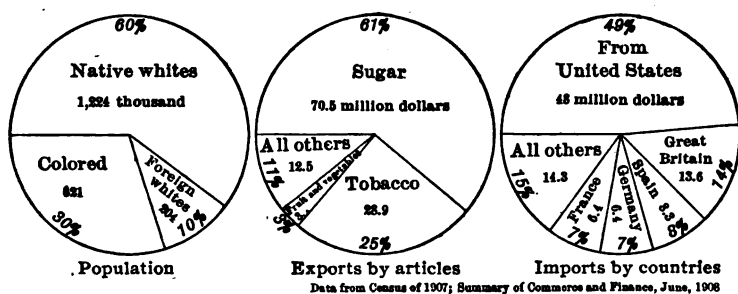


FIG. 166. *Races and commerce of Cuba. Population at Census of 1907; 2,049 thousand; commerce, 1907 (millions of dollars). exports, 115 (89% to U. S.); imports, 97, mostly foodstuffs and manufactures.*

The coast of Cuba, having a belt of resistant limestone near the sea but weaker rocks inland, contains many deep indentations of a singular bottle shape. Commerce thus "passes out

at a hundred gates." Moreover, these landlocked harbors with narrow entrances are admirably adapted for defense, as was clearly demonstrated during the Spanish War.

The principal commercial city of Cuba and the metropolis of the West Indies is Havana, at the northernmost bend of the island, less than one hundred miles from Key West. Next in rank are Santiago in the east and Cienfuegos in the south.

Bahia de Nipe has been selected by the Cuba Railway Company as their northern terminus, where they believe a great city will arise under American influences.

Cuba and the United States seem formed by nature for mutual dependence, each producing what the other needs. Since the reciprocity treaty of 1903, the exports of Cuba have gone mainly to the United

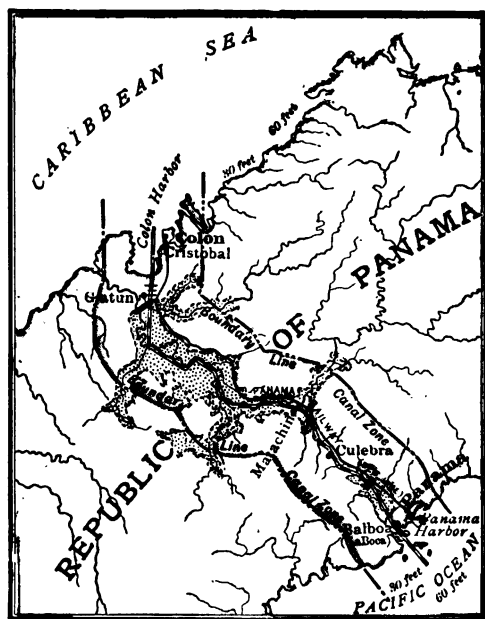


FIG. 167. The Panama Canal Zone.

States and the imports of foodstuffs, lumber, and fuel have come mostly from this country. (Fig. 166.) But the merchants of Cuba are, as a rule, Spaniards, and the imports of manufactures still come in great part from Europe.

**244. The Relation of Panama to the United States.** When Panama gained its independence (1903) from Colombia it promptly granted to the United States by treaty: (1) the same rights conferred by the Platt Amendment (§240), together

with sites for coaling and naval stations; (2) a strip ten miles wide along the canal, called the Canal Zone (Fig. 167), together with four islands near the Pacific end of the canal; and (3) the right to erect fortifications. Moreover, Panama was expressly placed under the protection of the United States, though it is still recognized as an independent state.

The United States has thus planted firm foot on the neck of land known to Sir Walter Raleigh as the "Isthmus of Darien," where men of imagination have never ceased to dream of a canal to reunite the severed oceans.

**245. The Republic of Panama.** Panama, the latest born of American republics, was called by the Spaniards "the grave of the living." Extending east and west in the lee of South America, the isthmus is not exposed to the full sweep of the trade wind; moreover it comes in summer under the belt of calms and heavy rains which accompanies the sun. The air is thus stagnant and reeking with moisture, and the Caribbean coast has long been one of the plague spots of the world: though it must be said that the Americans have greatly bettered health conditions in the Canal Zone.

Because of the climate, though Panama closely approaches Indiana in size, its population is small and composed almost exclusively of Indians, negroes, and half-breeds.

In the matter of resources, Panama compares favorably with most of tropical America, having large forests of cabinet and dyewoods, uplands well suited to grazing and coffee growing, and fertile soil on the lower levels which will produce all tropical crops. There are also valuable pearl beds in the Bay of Panama, and deposits of gold and coal not yet exploited. The principal exports are tropical fruits, especially bananas and cocoanuts.

In Spanish days the colossal treasures of Peru, which for a time rendered Spain the mightiest power in Europe, were carried across the isthmus on mule back. After the discovery of gold in California, the first transcontinental railway in America was built from Colon to Panama (1855) This road, now

belonging to the United States, is only forty-seven miles long, and has a summit level of only 250 feet between the oceans.



FIG. 168. *Panama Canal excavated to grade at Matachin.*

There is also a pipe line across the isthmus for the transportation of petroleum. It is, however, as the site of the inter-oceanic canal under construction that Panama is now most important to the United States and the world.

**246. The Panama Canal.** Each northern continent is paired with a southern; on the intervening narrow stretches of land and water converge the great lines of commerce. Since Suez was pierced, the Isthmus of Panama has been the greatest obstacle to the direct course of world commerce.

The opening of the Panama Canal<sup>1</sup> consequently means a revolution in world commerce. (Figs. 168 and 169.)

In the first place, the cheapening of freights will stimulate the growth of industry, and therefore of commerce, on all the shores of the Pacific. Already, as if in anticipation of this result, new transcontinental railroads are pushing toward the Pacific in Canada, the United States, Mexico, and Central America

<sup>1</sup>Dimensions: total length (including locks, etc.), 50.56 miles; width (at bottom) minimum, 300 feet, maximum, 1,000 feet; depth, minimum, 41 feet; summit level, 85 feet above mean tide. (Isthmian Canal Com., *Report*, 1909.)

Secondly, San Francisco is now practically as near by sea to Liverpool as to New York, while all the west coast of South America (which continent lies wholly east of Florida), is in effect nearer to Europe than to New York. The Panama Canal, on the other hand, will make the United States a next-door neighbor of Peru and Chile, and will give the Atlantic ports of the United States decisive commercial advantages as far west as Sydney and Hong-kong, perhaps even to Singapore. (Fig. 169.) The Panama Canal, especially if tolls be reduced

<i>Hamburg to Hong-kong</i> .....	10,542 miles via Suez Canal
	9,635 miles via Panama Canal
<i>New York to Hong-kong</i> .....	18,480 miles via Cape Horn
<i>Hamburg to Yokohama</i> .....	12,531 miles via Suez Canal
	9,635 miles via Panama Canal
<i>New York to Yokohama</i> .....	17,679 miles via Cape Horn
<i>Hamburg to Melbourne</i> .....	12,367 miles via Suez Canal
	10,247 miles via Panama Canal
<i>New York to Melbourne</i> .....	13,503 miles via Cape Horn
<i>Hamburg to San Francisco</i> .....	8,483 miles via Panama Canal
	15,140 miles via Cape Horn
	5,299 miles via Panama Canal
<i>New York to San Francisco</i> .....	14,840 miles via Cape Horn

Based on Report of Inter-oceanic Canal Commission, 1901

FIG. 169. *Effect of Panama Canal. Comparative distances from Hamburg and New York to Pacific ports before and after opening of the Panama Canal.*

to the cost of operation, will thus tend to reverse the historic direction of oriental commerce, drawing it east in place of west from China and Japan, causing Manila, San Francisco, Balboa (Fig. 193), and New York to rival Singapore, Calcutta, Port Said, and London. The commerce that London lost and the Mediterranean ports gained when the Suez Canal again sent the current of oriental commerce through the Mediterranean, as before Vasco da Gama, will be in part transferred by the Panama Canal to America.



Finally, the American fleet, having the power of quickly concentrating in either ocean,<sup>1</sup> will be nearly doubled in effectiveness; provided always the strategic positions commanding the approaches to the Isthmus are secured and strongly held. Once the canal is opened, Panama will



FIG. 170. Harbor of Panama at low tide

virtually become a part of the United States coast line, and in fact the most vulnerable part,<sup>2</sup> being the vital link between the Atlantic and Pacific slopes, the meeting point of two oceans and two continents. (Fig. 170.)

<sup>1</sup>How important this consideration may become was shown during the Spanish War by the sensational voyage of the "Oregon" around South America to reinforce the fleet in the West Indies.

<sup>2</sup>To insure the safety of the canal, neutralization has been proposed; but this would simply give all nations joining in the guarantee the right to land troops at the canal for the alleged purpose of upholding its neutrality. On the other hand, while fortification has been decided upon, it is difficult to make effective; for the Gatun Locks are within easy cannon range of the open sea.

Writers like Captain Mahan, the great authority on sea power, and Rear Admiral Bradford are therefore agreed that, in order to be secure, the United States must control the approaches to the isthmus from both directions. This fact gives great value to various islands now held by other nations, notably the Danish and Dutch West Indies and the Galápagos Islands in the Pacific. (Figs. 181, 182.)

## XVII—CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND

*'Daughter am I in my mother's house but mistress of mine own.'*—Kipling.

**247. The Making of Canada.** The fur trade was at once the foundation and destruction of French Canada, for it left the colony without a solid basis in agriculture.

English Canada practically began with the American Revolution, which drove to New Brunswick and Ontario thousands of loyalists, including many belonging to the educated and property-owning classes of the revolted colonies.

Convinced by the Papineau Rebellion (1837) and the discontent even in the English-speaking provinces that repression would again lead to revolution, the British Parliament conceded provincial, and later (1867) federal, self-government. The nine provinces now correspond to states of the American Union; and the Canadian Parliament possesses practically all the powers exercised by any independent nation, except the control of foreign relations. Canada, contributing not a penny to the British treasury, thus enjoys most of the benefits with few of the burdens of independence.

Recently the last British soldiers have been withdrawn from Canada, leaving the fortresses manned by Canadian troops.

**248. Surface and Climate of Canada.** Kipling's reference to Canada as "Our Lady of the Snows" has helped to fix in the public mind an utterly false conception of the country. It is perhaps an echo of Voltaire's assertion that "all North America is not worth fighting for, being only a few acres of snow."

The fact is that Canada extends from the latitude of Rome to that of North Cape in Norway; its total area exceeds that of the United States including Alaska; and even deducting the Arctic barrens, the part fit for agriculture (1,700,000 square miles) equals the United States east of the Rockies. (Fig. 180.)

The long hours of sunshine (Fig. 171) in summer, together with the warm winds from the Pacific, push the limits of grain

and of trees a thousand miles to the north in western Canada, preserving the great plains there for the uses of civilization. (Fig. 180.) The smaller evaporation and somewhat larger summer rainfall also cause the broad arid belt to fade out toward the north. As a result, while the Canadian Pacific traverses several hundred miles of country east of the Rockies where irrigation is essential to agriculture, the new Grand Trunk Pacific passes to the northward of the dry lands.

Such a country can readily support 50,000,000 people and perhaps many more. It is well clearly to recognize the fact that Canada is fitted both by the character of its

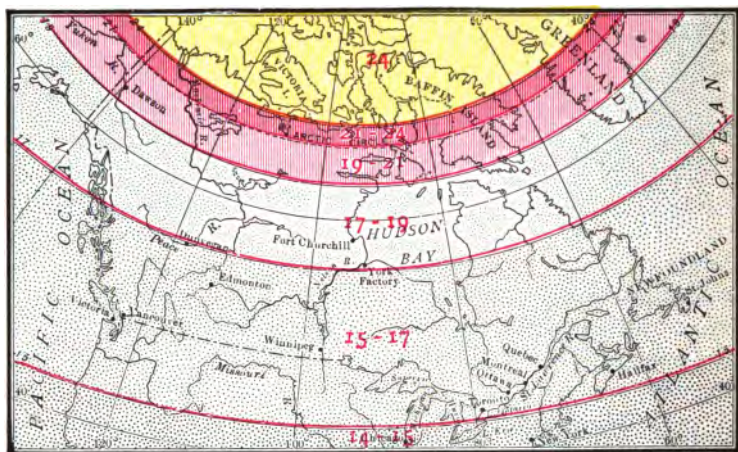


FIG. 171. Possible hours of sunshine in July.

inhabitants and by its resources to be the one serious rival of the United States in the western hemisphere.

**249. Canadian Fisheries.** The rich fisheries of the eastern coast first drew the attention of Europe to that region. The center of the fishing industry is still in the eastern maritime provinces, where the wide submarine plateau, the Arctic current, and indented coast offer special facilities. (Fig. 65.) The principal fishing port is Halifax. The species caught are,

as in the United States, chiefly cod, haddock, herring, mackerel, and lobsters in the Atlantic; whitefish and lake trout in the Great Lakes; salmon in the Pacific. The men employed are, relatively to the population, far more numerous than in the United States.

**250. The Fur Trade in Canada.** Fur-bearing animals still abound in the vast subarctic forest, the most valuable being the beaver, sable, marten, and the rare silver and black foxes. The trappers are with few exceptions Indians or half-breeds. Stations of the Hudson Bay Company are scattered along all the northern rivers. In the northwest, the chief outfitting station is Edmonton, at the head of navigation on the north Saskatchewan, whence a short trail, soon to be replaced by a railway, leads to the Athabaska. The fur traders follow the water ways, using canoes in summer, dog sleds and snowshoes in winter.

**251. Forest Products of Canada.** Early in the nineteenth century lumber succeeded fur as the leading product of Canada.

The lumbering industry has four principal centers: New Brunswick, where spruce prevails; the St. Lawrence basin, where the Ottawa delivers pine to the mills at Chaudière Falls and the Saguenay brings down birch for the mills at Quebec; the Georgian Bay region, where there is still some pine; finally, the Pacific coast, where the Douglas fir is the most valuable timber.

**252. Farming in Eastern Canada.** Agriculture is now the leading industry of Canada, furnishing by far the largest share of her exports. (Figs, 173 and 174.)

The eastern provinces south of the St. Lawrence reproduce the soil and climate of New England, though the part of Nova Scotia along the Bay of Fundy, being shielded from north and east winds, is 6° F. warmer than Boston. This is the Acadia of the French, where the scene of "Evangeline" is laid. Besides this district, now a famous apple country, and Prince Edward Island, which has a very fertile soil, there is little first-class farming land in the maritime provinces.

Grain fields have therefore largely given way to dairy pastures since railways reached the prairies of Manitoba.

The St. Lawrence Valley contains only a narrow strip of fertile alluvial soil near the river. Though situated in the latitude of southern France, the winters are cold on account of the prevailing west winds from the interior of the continent, and for the same reason the summers are long and hot. Maize and tobacco are staple crops, though less important than are oats, potatoes, and hay.

Southern Ontario, especially the peninsular portion, is the garden spot of Canada. It is a great fruit and dairy country, exporting quantities of apples and cheese. Canada is the greatest cheese-making and cheese-exporting country in the world. (Fig. 38.)

**253. Farming in Western Canada.** The prairie region west of Lake Winnipeg, extending north to the Peace River Valley, is estimated to contain four times as much prime wheat land as the United States. (Fig. 172.) Moreover, the soil is so fertile, when first won to the plow, that the average yield per acre is a fourth greater than is the yield in the United States. It is undeniably cold there in winter; but summer crops are not dependent on the winter temperature. Spring is said to be as early, and summer nearly as hot, at Dunvegan on the Peace River as at Winnipeg. Spring wheat is consequently a

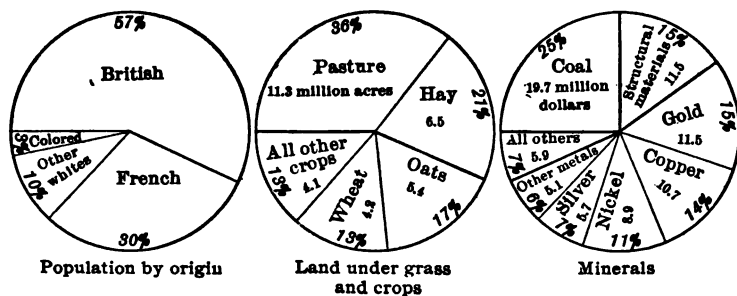


Courtesy of C. N. Ry.

FIG. 172. *Miles of wheat in Canada, cut and ready for threshing. The lure that draws Americans to Canada.*

reliable crop at Dunvegan (latitude 56°), while potatoes ripen as far north as Fort Good Hope, almost on the Arctic Circle. It is thus apparent that Minneapolis is about in the center of the wheat-growing area of North America, measured from north to south. (Fig. 53.)

In recent years hundreds of thousands of American farmers have settled on these fertile prairie lands. This movement



Data from Census of 1901, and Dept. of Mines, 1907-08

FIG. 173. *People, crops, and minerals of Canada. Totals: population, census of 1901, 5,371,051; land under grass and crops, census of 1901, 31.5 million acres, or 1.3% of total area; minerals in 1906, 79 million dollars.*

is likely to grow in volume as the pressure for land becomes more severe in the United States.

The arid belt, principally south of the Canadian Pacific line, is given over to cattle ranches, though irrigation is rapidly being extended in the foothills near Calgary.

Where fairly level land can be found on the Pacific slope, grain and fruits, especially pears, reach perfection.

**254. Mineral Resources of Canada.** The mineral resources of Canada almost match those of the United States in extent and variety. (Fig. 173.)

Most of the metals exist in paying quantities. Gold, copper, and iron are found in three regions—the eastern provinces, the Lake Superior district, and the Cordilleran Highland. The largest output of gold is from the Klondike; of copper from the Rossland, B. C., mines; and of iron from Nova Scotia and the Superior district. The nickel deposits around Sudbury

are the most productive in the world; and important silver mines, producing also some cobalt,<sup>1</sup> have been opened in northern Ontario. Lead and the lesser metals are mined chiefly in British Columbia.

Canada furnishes much of the mica used in the United States and also controls the world's market for asbestos, the principal mines being in Quebec.

Petroleum and natural gas are produced to a limited extent in peninsular Ontario near London. They also occur in vast quantities along the Mackenzie and Athabaska rivers.

Coal underlies three different districts: the eastern, in Nova Scotia; the central, on the eastern slope of the Rockies; and the Pacific, on the mainland and the islands about Nanaimo. The central field is by far the largest, though the least worked because without water transportation. It includes lignite in the plains, from the United States boundary to the Mackenzie River (where certain beds have been afire since 1788); bituminous coal at Lethbridge and Crowsnest Pass; and anthracite in the mountains around Banff. The farther from the mountains, the poorer is the coal. Anthracite occurs also in the Queen Charlotte Islands off the Pacific coast.

The Canadian coal fields (97,200 square miles) greatly exceed those of all Europe; but the St. Lawrence Valley, which is in other respects the best adapted for manufactures, is entirely destitute of coal.

**255. Manufactures in Canada.** Manufactures, stimulated by a high tariff and government bounties, drew to the cities nearly the whole increase of population from 1891 to 1901. Canada has plainly taken a leaf from the notebook of the United States and is striving for "autarchy"—the capacity of providing for itself—which Aristotle declared to be the necessary condition of political independence.

Some industries enjoy a decisive advantage from the cheapness of raw materials: for example, those employing lumber,

<sup>1</sup>Used mainly as a blue coloring material for porcelain, glass, etc.

grain, meat, or dairy products. Another factor of great importance is water power, in which Canada abounds. Pulp mills at the foot of the forested Laurentian Highland north of the St. Lawrence have incomparable advantages for paper making. The abundance of hemlock bark favors the tanning of leather and the manufacture of shoes at Quebec. The conjunction of coal, iron, and limestone has favored the iron industry at Sydney, N. S. There are also important iron works along the lakes, notably at Toronto, Hamilton, and Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. These use Superior iron and coal from Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Industries employing imported materials, such as cotton, wool, rubber, and sugar, are most prominent at Montreal. These owe their prosperity entirely to the protective tariff.

**256. Transportation Systems of Canada.** Canada is emphatically the land of magnificent water ways. The northern rivers—Yukon, Mackenzie, Saskatchewan—are, it is true, icebound much of the year; but they are nevertheless of value commercially, especially the Yukon. Still more important is the St. Lawrence system which, supplemented by seventy-five miles of fourteen-foot canals, carries good-sized vessels 2,700 miles inland. The Chambly Canal connects the St. Lawrence with Lake Champlain and the Hudson; while the Ottawa River with the Rideau Canal forms an alternative route to Lake Ontario.

In proportion to population, Canada has also a very large mileage of railways. (Tables 4 and 5.)

The Intercolonial Railway is a government venture, built expressly to connect Montreal with tidewater without leaving Canadian territory. It was thus located according to political rather than economic considerations and has seldom paid expenses.

The Canadian Pacific Railway (finished 1885) extending from St. John to Vancouver is the true "northwest passage" so long sought by mariners of all nations. Owing to the fact that as you go toward the pole, each parallel of latitude forms



a smaller circle than the last, the Canadian Pacific offers the shortest existing route from Europe to China and Japan, and shorter to India than the route around Africa. Much oriental commerce now reaches London over this road, and it would become of the greatest military importance to England in case the Suez Canal should be blocked.

The Grand Trunk system extends from Portland through the central provinces and, passing the St. Clair River by tunnel, continues to Chicago. The Canadian government has also undertaken, in conjunction with the Grand Trunk, to build a new transcontinental line, the Grand Trunk Pacific, from Moncton, N. B., by way of Quebec, Winnipeg, and Edmonton to Prince Rupert on the Pacific. The Grand Trunk Pacific will have easier grades and traverse less arid land than the Canadian Pacific. Moreover, it will further shorten by two days' sail the route from Liverpool to Asia.

Another railroad is projected from Winnipeg to Hudson Bay, only 2,970 miles by sea from Liverpool, forming a new and shorter outlet for Canadian wheat. Hudson Bay is ice-free four months, including the month after harvest.

An all-British cable links Canada with Australia and New Zealand, "the newest England in the southern seas."

**257. Commercial Centers of Canada.** The commercial capital of Canada is Montreal. Though located nearly a thousand miles from the sea, it is about 300 miles nearer to Liverpool than is New York. Only the freezing of the St. Lawrence has hindered Montreal from becoming the metropolis of the New World.

As matters stand, the smaller lake boats carry wheat from Fort William and Port Arthur through the Welland Canal to Kingston, and in some cases direct to Montreal. The larger vessels, however, being unable to go through the Welland Canal, discharge their cargoes at Midland, Depot Harbor, and other ports<sup>1</sup> on Lake Huron, especially on Georgian Bay,

<sup>1</sup>Including Goderich on Lake Huron; Collingwood, Meaford, and Owen Sound on Georgian Bay.

whence grain goes east by rail. Perhaps a fifth of the American export wheat also takes these routes to the seaboard.

It is estimated that thirty-two miles of canal would reopen an ancient natural channel from Georgian Bay to the Ottawa River, and so to the St. Lawrence at Montreal. Such a canal, effecting a great saving in distance and cost, would tend to sidetrack Buffalo and New York in favor of Montreal as the port of export for all northwestern products, American as well as Canadian.

Quebec, the old capital of French Canada, became a way station as soon as the St. Lawrence was deepened for ocean vessels (30 feet) to Montreal. Its interests are now manufacturing rather than commercial; but the constantly increasing size of ships and the bridging of the river near Quebec cannot fail to restore much of its commercial importance. Quebec will, in any event, become the summer port of the Grand Trunk Pacific system.

Halifax, N. S., and St. John, N. B., have excellent, ice-free harbors; though the high tides at St. John, which serve to break the ice, also hinder the loading and unloading of vessels. Both cities are terminal points for the Intercolonial Railway, whose tracks will be used by the Grand Trunk Pacific from Moncton to tidewater. Owing to the longer haul by land, they are at a disadvantage compared with ports lying nearer the interior like Montreal and New York; but St. John is tending to supplant Portland as the winter port of Canada (§149). Halifax is the great Canadian naval station on the Atlantic, as the harbor of Esquimalt is on the Pacific.

Toronto was originally the "Place of Meeting" where the portage began from Lake Ontario to Lake Huron. It has a fine harbor of the barrier type (§36), backed by the rich lands of the Ontario peninsula, and is the second city of Canada in population.

The Georgian Bay ports, located at the eastern end of the Great Lakes route, are the Canadian counterparts of Buffalo. Fort William and Port Arthur, twin ports standing where

the Canadian railways from the West first touch Lake Superior, correspond to Duluth-Superior. Winnipeg, located on the edge of the prairies, where the railways necessarily converge to pass around Lake Winnipeg (with which it is connected by river and canal), corresponds both in position and business push to Chicago. Edmonton, at the junction of navigable rivers and of railways, answers to Minneapolis and St. Paul. Finally, Vancouver takes the place of San Francisco and Prince Rupert of Puget Sound.

**258. The Commerce of Canada.** On the whole, the basis of Canadian prosperity is still agriculture, especially the rapid extension of wheat growing in the Northwest. The exports

	27%	22%	18%	16%	5%	12%
<i>Exports by classes.....</i>	Crop products 66 million dollars	Animal products 55	Forest products 44	Mineral products 39	Fish & Manufac- tures 14	8
	58%			27%	3%	12%
<i>Imports by countries.....</i>	From United States 205 million dollars			Great Britain 94	France 16	All others. 43

Data from Report, Dept. of Trade and Commerce of Canada

FIG. 174. *Commerce of Canada. Totals in 1908 (millions of dollars): export of home produce, 237 (51% to Great Britain, 37% to U. S.); imports, 352, chiefly manufactures.*

of Canada are therefore chiefly food and raw materials, while the imports are largely manufactured goods. (Fig. 174.)

In proportion to population, Canada is one of the best customers of the United States; though Canadian products have been heavily taxed in American markets. (Table 4.) Canada fronts the United States for over 3,000 miles. On both sides of this artificial line are found the same race and language. The resources of the two countries are largely complementary. Thus New England needs coal from Nova Scotia; middle Canada needs coal from Pennsylvania. Moreover, the lumber and ores of Canada are becoming indispensable in the United States, while Canada requires the products of our factories. Two countries were never more clearly dependent on each other for the highest prosperity.

The United States plainly missed its opportunity when it broke off the reciprocity treaty with Canada (1866). Canada now taxes American manufactures a third more than British goods; and Canadians are a unit in desiring either the present British connection or absolute independence.

**259. Newfoundland.** Newfoundland is the oldest British colony (1583). Having so far refused to join Canada, it is self-governing, subject only to Great Britain. The population is still small, though the island is as large (42,734 square miles) as Ohio. The eastern part of Labrador is also attached politically to Newfoundland.

The exclusive fishing rights claimed by the French on a large part of the shore, which long hindered the development of the colony, have been given up (1904); but France still holds St. Pierre and Miquelon, which serve as retreats for fishing vessels.

The surface of the island is broken, the coast line indented, and the climate raw and prolific in fogs on account of the Labrador Current, with its procession of icebergs. However, the climate is better on the west coast, where the valleys have some good farming land and heavy timber. The mineral resources are considerable, iron and copper ore being now mined. Fishing is still the leading industry, though agriculture is receiving increased attention. The exports are chiefly fish and ores; the imports, foodstuffs and manufactures.

The interests of Newfoundland incline to the United States, which offers a better natural market for fish than Canada; but a continued refusal to admit fish untaxed must eventually drive Newfoundland into the arms of Canada.

A railroad crosses the island, connecting by steamer with Cape Breton. St. Johns, the capital, only 1,650 miles from Ireland, is the eastern terminus of the railroad system of North America.

## XVIII—MIDDLE AMERICA AND THE WEST INDIES

**260. The American Mediterranean.** The great inclosed basins of the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico, forming the American Mediterranean (Fig. 194), are exceeded in their extent and the richness of their bordering lands only by the Mediterranean Sea of the Old World and by the Sea of Japan.<sup>1</sup>

**261. Physical Features of Middle America.** Middle America consists of Mexico and Central America, which are very much alike in topography, climate, and population. Mexico (Fig. 182) consists in the main of a lofty plateau (6,000-8,000 feet) inclosed between loftier mountains and traversed from east to west, in the latitude of Vera Cruz, by a belt of towering volcanoes. (Fig. 175.) The range traversing Lower California also reappears on the mainland northwest of Manzanillo.

East of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, where the mountain system of North America really ends and a strait formerly connected the oceans, the general trend of the mountains both on the mainland and the Greater Antilles is east and west. Here, too, there are lofty plateaus, but separated by deep depressions in Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama, where other straits formerly connected the oceans.

The climate is governed chiefly by elevation and exposure to the prevailing northeast trade wind. The climatic zones are thus vertically disposed, rising from tropical lowlands through all gradations of climate to peaks clad in perpetual snow. (Fig. 176.) Owing to the prevalence of the northeast trade wind and the nearer approach of the equatorial belt of calms and rains in summer, the rainfall is greatest, and is in fact excessive, on the Caribbean slope, especially in summer; it is least on the Pacific slope, and in winter. It also increases gradually toward the south. Yucatan and the plateau of

<sup>1</sup>Shaler, *Sea and Land*, ("The Formation and Preservation of Harbors," ch. 6).

northern Mexico are, however, arid, like other tracts in the trade-wind zones which lack mountains to condense moisture.

By reason of cooler climate, the lofty plateau containing the City of Mexico has been the seat of power, alike under the Aztecs and the Spaniards. In Central America most of the population and agriculture are confined to the similar lofty plateaus of Guatemala and Costa Rica, together with the narrow volcanic zone along the Pacific, which are relatively cool and somewhat sheltered from the trade wind.

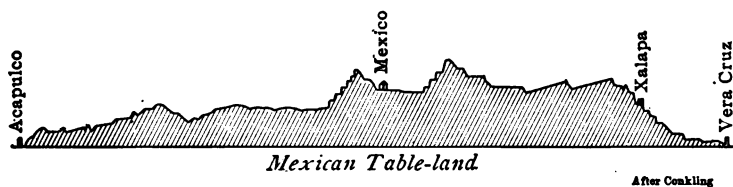


FIG. 175. *Profile view of Mexico.*

**262. The Inhabitants of Middle America.** The Spaniards conquered (1521) but never effectively colonized Mexico or Central America. They merely reduced the natives to serfdom, imposing themselves as a ruling class. They were, moreover, for the most part adventurers, who came without families and married Indian women. The Indian element thus retains an overwhelming preponderance, even in Mexico; while in Central America, except on the lofty plateau of Costa Rica, practically the entire population consists of Indians and half-breeds of various degrees, together with some negroes along the coasts. (Fig. 178.)

This predominance of races fresh from barbarism doubtless goes far to explain the turbulence and corruption of most Spanish-American states. Such conditions have severely limited industry and commerce. Volcanoes and earthquakes are less destructive than perpetual revolution.

In Mexico a despot has indeed arisen strong and enlightened enough to enforce peace and favor commerce; but the question in every one's mind is, after Diaz—what?

**263. Products of the Soil in Middle America.** In point of size, Mexico about equals the southern section of the United States, while Central America equals the Atlantic states north of the Potomac. The products depend, however, less on the latitude than on the elevation and rainfall. (Fig. 176.)

The first agricultural industry established by the Spaniards was cattle raising. This is still of much importance. The Mexican plateau north of  $20^{\circ}$  is, indeed, a natural range country; and so are the well-grassed plateaus in Central America

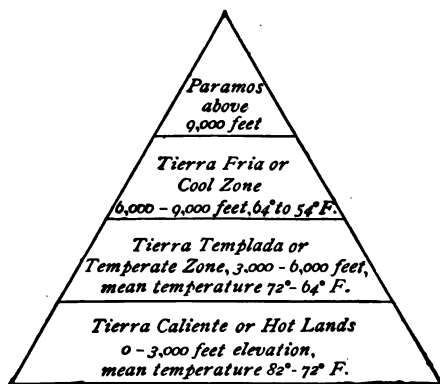


FIG. 176. Vertical zones of climate in tropical America. The elevations given are merely approximate, as usage varies in different localities.

wherever shielded from the trade wind. Honduras and Nicaragua are largely occupied by cattle ranches, while the higher plateaus in Mexico and Guatemala pasture sheep. The quality of stock is everywhere poor, owing to lack of care, for this is the land of *mañana*—to-morrow.

The low-lying, hot country (*tierra caliente*) is fever-haunted; but

the soil is very rich and vegetation never ceases growth. Here are found, especially along the Caribbean, dense forests producing mahogany, rosewood, cedar, logwood and fustic (both yielding dyes), rubber, chicle (used in chewing gum), and in Salvador a medicinal substance called "balsam of Peru." The cultivated products which enter commerce are chiefly sugar and cocoa along the Pacific, bananas and cocoanuts along the Caribbean, indigo in Salvador, and vanilla around Vera Cruz.

The zone of medium elevation and temperature (*tierra templada*) will raise sugar cane and wheat side by side. Its

distinctive crop, however, is coffee, grown chiefly in southern Mexico and in Central America along the Pacific. Tobacco and cotton are of some importance, especially in Mexico. Most of the Mexican cotton comes from the irrigated lake (*Laguna*) district near Lerdo. The leading food crops of this zone, and indeed of Middle America as a whole, are corn and red beans (*frijoles*). Chick-peas (*garbanzos*) are an article of export to Spain, especially from Mexico.

The cool zone (*tierra fria*) consists of lofty plateaus which are in effect pieces of the Temperate zone set down in the midst



FIG. 177. Cutting agave leaves for sisal fiber in Yucatan.

of the Tropics. In this zone most of the temperate crops and fruits are grown, but mainly for local consumption. (Fig. 176.)

In dry districts, at various elevations, several species of agaves (Fig. 177) or century plants are very extensively cultivated, one species yielding sisal fiber, another Tampico or ixtle fiber, and a third the national drink of Mexico.<sup>1</sup> The chief center of sisal culture is Yucatan, where the plant is

<sup>1</sup>Called pulque and consisting of the fermented juice of the *Agave Americana*. A stronger liquor, mescal, is made by distillation of agave roots.



indigenous. Now that a gin has been invented for extracting the fiber, sisal has become a great crop where little else will grow. In arid parts of the Mexican plateau is also found a shrub (*guayule*) which has become important as a source of rubber.

Mexican and Central American coffee, being far superior to Brazilian, is marketed chiefly in Europe. This fact is unfavorable to the development of import trade from the United States.

**264. Other Natural Resources of Middle America.** Valuable pearl fisheries exist in the Gulf of California and Nicoya Bay, yielding pearls and pearl shells for export.

It was the wealth of Mexico in precious metals that attracted Cortès and his soldiers of fortune. Under the Diaz regime much American capital has been invested in Mexican mines and railways.

Silver, zinc, and lead are abundant on the Mexican plateau<sup>1</sup>; and there has been a phenomenal development of copper mining in the Cananea district and in Lower California. Mexico leads the world in the production of silver, and ranks next to the United States in copper. (Fig. 138.) Iron is also abundant, notably in the famous "iron mountain" near Durango. Gold occurs in paying quantities on the Pacific slope. This district is probably a continuation of the California gold fields.

In Central America, some gold "diggings" have been opened on the Caribbean slope in Nicaragua, and veins of silver in Honduras. But the rich mineral resources of Central America are largely undeveloped, owing to lack of transportation facilities and to repeated revolutions.

Of the non-metallic substances, coal, petroleum, salt, sulphur, and precious stones (opals and onyx) are found in Mexico. The most productive coal field is near Sabinas in northern Mexico; though near the Gulf of California is a field of anthracite believed to equal that of Pennsylvania. Mexico, however, still imports much coal.

<sup>1</sup>Around Guanajuato, Zacatecas, San Luis Potosi, and Chihuahua.

**265. Manufactures of Mexico and Central America.** The Aztecs and Mayas, the chief Indian tribes, were skillful artisans; and to them, rather than to the conquering Spaniards, is due whatever is best in the handiwork of Mexico and Central America. Examples are the Mexican lace and drawn work, especially at Aguas Calientes, the carved and inlaid woods, the feather goods, pottery, jewelry, waxwork, blankets, cloaks (*serapes*) and Yucatan hammocks, which have made Mexico famous. The center of the Mexican pottery industry is Guadalajara.

Leather goods, on the other hand, were introduced by the Spaniards, though a native tanning agent (*cascalote* pods) is chiefly employed. The center of Mexican leather manufactures is Leon.

Manufacturing by power machinery has been hindered by the scarcity and high price of fuel; but recently the waterfalls at the edge of the Mexican plateau have begun to be used as a source of power. There are upward of 150 textile mills, consuming all the domestic cotton and some from the United States. The leading textile center is Puebla.<sup>1</sup> Modern blast furnaces, burning coke, have been established at Monterrey, near the Sabinas coal field.

**266. Transportation in Middle America.** Toward the Gulf and Caribbean, the land descends by a series of broad terraces, ending in a flat coast devoid of deep natural harbors. Vera Cruz, partially sheltered by small islands, and the river ports, Tampico and Puerto Mexico (Coatzacoalcos), all required costly works to render them safe and accessible to large vessels. Vera Cruz has long been the chief commercial port, being the nearest outlet of the fertile plateau around the capital; but Tampico has a better harbor and climate, and easier grades onto the plateau. It has also connection through a canal and lagoon with Tuxpan. Puerto Mexico, being the Gulf terminus of an interoceanic railway only 192 miles long, with

<sup>1</sup>Both cotton and wool are woven at Puebla; wool also at Aguas Calientes.

a summit level of only 924 feet, is certain to command a vast transit trade. Already sugar from Hawaii takes this route to New York. This Tehuantepec route, saving at least four days over the Panama, may hold mail, passenger, and perishable-goods traffic even after the opening of the Panama Canal.

In Central America north of Panama, the chief gateways of trade on the Caribbean are Barrios in Guatemala, and Limon in Costa Rica.<sup>1</sup> (Fig. 194.) Barrios has, and Limon will soon have (1911) a railway bringing the Pacific within a few days of New Orleans. These railways drawing trade toward the Caribbean are favorable to the commerce of the United States. They are, in fact, largely controlled by Americans interested in the banana trade.

On the Pacific coast of Mexico there are some good harbors, but mostly backed by precipitous mountains and difficult of access from the Mexican plateau. This is the case at Acapulco, the best natural harbor on that coast. The principal commercial ports are Guaymas, reached by the Southern Pacific; Manzanillo, now connected by rail with Tampico; and Salina Cruz, on an artificial harbor at the terminus of the Tehuantepec Railway. A trunk line along the Pacific coast is under construction from Guaymas through Mazatlan to Guadalajara; and a branch of the Tehuantepec railway extends to the Guatemalan frontier. Several other ports seem assured of through railways, especially Topolobampo, the port of the projected Kansas City, Mexico, & Orient system. All these railway extensions are due chiefly to the Panama Canal, which will for the first time effectively open the eastern Pacific to commerce.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Limon line, 170 miles long, has a summit level of 5,040 feet; and the Barrios line, 271 miles in length, also has a high summit level.

<sup>2</sup> The "great circle" or shortest route from Panama to Hawaii hugs the shore almost to San Francisco. This fact will necessarily render the Pacific ports of Mexico commercially important. It also gives new value to the United States coaling station near La Paz (acquired 1868); though naval authorities insist that Bahia de la Magdalena is far preferable and in fact indispensable for naval purposes. (See Rear Admiral Bradford, *Forum*, Feb., 1899.)

In Central America, owing to the location of agriculture and population, the Pacific ports handle a relatively large volume of trade. They are, however, mostly roadsteads exposed to the open sea.<sup>1</sup>

Internal transportation is extremely difficult. There are no navigable rivers of importance, and few roads except mule paths. Many a promising mining enterprise has failed because machinery could not reach the mines. Everything, therefore, depends upon railroads—the “iron rivers” of this region. The Mexican government, in order not to be at the mercy of

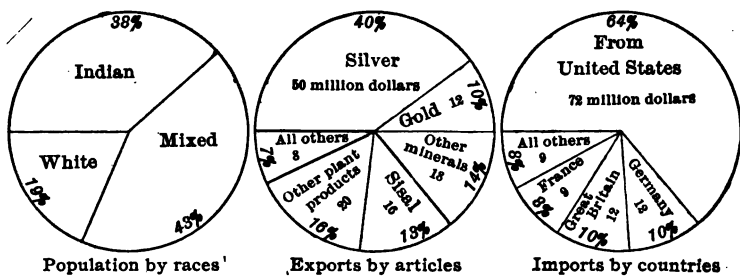


FIG. 178. *Races and commerce of Mexico. Totals: population, in 1900, 13,611,694; commerce, in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 124 (71% to U. S.); imports, 114, chiefly coal, foodstuffs, and manufactures.*

private interests, has consequently bought enough stock to control the principal railways reaching nearly all parts of the Republic<sup>2</sup> and operates them as a single system.

**267. Commerce of Middle America.** The exports of Mexico and Central America are for the most part metals, hides, and crude products of the forest and plantation; while the imports are foods and manufactured goods.

In Mexico, because of proximity, extensive American

<sup>1</sup>So all in Guatemala, and all in Salvador except El Triunfo and La Union. The best are Amapala on the Gulf of Fonseca, Corinto, and Punta Arenas.

<sup>2</sup>This government “merger” called the National Railways of Mexico, includes, besides the Tehuantepec which was built by the government, the Vera Cruz and Pacific, the Central, National, International, and Interoceanic lines.

investments, and the several trunk lines of railways connecting with American roads, the United States has the largest trade. (Fig. 178.) Europe, however, still supplies many lines of manufactures in Mexico, and has almost a monopoly in parts of Central America. The reason no doubt is, in large part, that Spaniards handle the trade of Mexico; and that Germans handle the trade of Central America. They also own many of the plantations, aside from the banana orchards; and landed property is everywhere the true basis of power.

**268. The West Indies.** The West Indies consist of several mountain ranges, partially submerged, which if revealed in their whole majestic height would equal the *Himálayas*. The outlying Bermudas and Bahamas are, however, of coral formation. The climate, except in these outlying groups, is thoroughly tropical, though all the larger islands contain temperate uplands, especially Haiti, which by a strange freak of fortune has become the black man's second home.

Owing to the trade wind, nearly all the towns in the Lesser Antilles lie on the sheltered western shore.

**269. The Inhabitants of the West Indies.** Most of the natives on the islands speedily perished under the yoke of slavery. The ground was thus apparently cleared for a white laboring population. The cultivation of sugar cane, however, fastened African slavery upon the West Indies, as cotton did upon the southern part of the United States; and in many of the islands, especially the French, the whites have merged in a common mulatto population.<sup>1</sup>

The West Indies are consequently, with the exception of Cuba and Porto Rico, and the little Dutch island of Saba,<sup>2</sup> as overwhelmingly African as Central America is Indian in population.

<sup>1</sup>Doubtless because in the West Indies, as in Mexico, a person having any white blood whatsoever passes for white, while the color line is drawn between the mixed-bloods and the full-blooded negroes or Indians.

<sup>2</sup>Inhabited by English-speaking Dutch boat builders and fishermen, who seem to thrive despite the tropical climate.

**270. The British West Indies.** For more than three centuries the West Indies have been "the grand arena of the war of nations." Every island consequently has a history as varied as a separate country. Being thus the prize of naval victory, most of them have been acquired by England through her overmastering sea power. The British possessions include the Bermudas, Bahamas, Jamaica with its dependencies, and the bulk of the Lesser Antilles extending like an arch from Porto Rico to Trinidad. (Table 4.)

For nearly a century, however, the West Indies have been undergoing economic decay. Emancipation left the estates without efficient laborers; for the freed negroes generally "squatted" on vacant lands, cultivating little patches of yams and sweet potatoes, and refusing to work regularly on the plantations. Then the competition of European beet sugar ruined the cane-sugar industry, except in Cuba; and even there it produced the insurrection which led to the Spanish-American War. Much land once worth several hundred dollars an acre has consequently reverted to jungle.

**271. The Bermudas and Bahamas.** The Bermudas are commercially dependent on New York, exporting early potatoes and onions, besides lily bulbs. Their importance to England is strategic rather than commercial, consisting in their position near the American coast and their harbor, "difficult to enter, secure when entered." The Bermudas are consequently a coaling and naval station, heavily fortified, forming one of England's principal ocean strongholds.

The Bahamas, being of coral formation, are low and therefore rather dry. The leading exports are sponges, salt, and ambergris<sup>1</sup> from the sea, sisal and pineapples from the soil. Like the Bermudas, the Bahamas are a favorite winter resort for Americans. The harbor of Nassau, though shallow, has an admirable location on the Strait of Florida and very near the mainland.

<sup>1</sup>A peculiar substance from the sperm whale which commands a high price as an ingredient in — perfumes!

**272. The Lesser Antilles and Jamaica.** In the West Indies proper, there are also some low islands, such as Barbuda, which, lacking mountains to serve as "rain condensers," produce chiefly salt and guano, besides scanty pasturage.

On most of the West Indies the planters are still trying to raise sugar cane; but only the island of Barbados makes it pay, through having a dense population and therefore abundant labor, and Trinidad, through the use of Hindu coolies. The most promising crops for small islands and small farmers, since they require neither expensive machinery like sugar, nor rapid transportation like fruit, are sea-island cotton on the plains, cocoa on the lower slopes (below 1,500 feet), and coffee on the mountains. Cocoa, already widely grown, is most important in Trinidad and Grenada; cotton in St. Christopher; and coffee in Jamaica, which ranks next to Haiti as a producer of coffee. Other products which have proved the economic salvation of certain islands are: limes for the preparation of lime juice in Montserrat and Dominica; arrowroot in St. Vincent; nutmegs in Grenada; and bananas, oranges, and cocoanuts in Jamaica. In addition to fruit and coffee, Jamaica exports pimento or allspice (native to that island), ginger, logwood, and annatto—the latter only too familiar in the beautiful golden tint imparted by its use to much creamery butter. The pitch lake of Trinidad furnishes much of the asphalt used in American pavements.

**273. Principal Ports of the British West Indies.** The British islands, like the French, have excellent roads and several short railways. They also contain a number of fine harbors. Barbados, though not well sheltered, is by reason of its location the headquarters of the British Royal Mail steamship line, which makes the circuit of the West Indies. Port of Spain, Trinidad, is likewise by reason of its location the transshipment port of the Orinoco Valley. Kingston Harbor, Jamaica, is situated in the very center of the American Mediterranean, on the direct route from New York to the Panama Canal. Castries Harbor, St. Lucia, an ancient crater

with narrow entrance between towering rocks, is another fortified outpost of the British Empire.

**274. The Island of Haiti.** The island of Haiti, after Cuba the largest and most fertile in the West Indies, is divided between a French-speaking negro state (Haiti) in the west end, and a Spanish-speaking mulatto state, the Dominican Republic (Santo Domingo), in the east. Both are so disorderly and so deeply in debt that only the Monroe Doctrine has hitherto prevented the occupation of the island by some European power. The Dominican Republic has become practically a protectorate of the United States, its customs revenues being administered by American officials, as a measure of protection against foreign creditors and domestic revolutionists.

The forested mountains contain all the usual cabinet and dyewoods (§263), also ebony and satinwood. The forests are the largest natural resource of the island. Haiti has in addition the best pasturage in the West Indies; though the export of hides only about equals the export of beeswax. Many kinds of mineral deposits are reported, but their commercial value remains to be determined.

The principal export crops are coffee in the west, and cocoa in the east end of the island. Others are sugar cane, tobacco, and cotton—the cotton from a tree growing wild. Recently, banana plantations have been set out by Americans. Trade, except in fruit, is mostly handled by German merchants.

Aside from several short railways, the principal means of land transportation is the patient donkey. There are, however, many good harbors. Bahia de Samana and Mole St. Nicolas, which the United States once sought to acquire for naval purposes,<sup>1</sup> are deep, safe, and defensible, the one facing the Mona and the other the Windward Passage. Other natural harbors are found at Puerto Plata and Cap Haitien on the north, and Port au Prince on the west, coast. These three are the principal centers of commerce.

<sup>1</sup>Under Grant and Hayes, respectively. In 1869 the Dominican Republic voted in favor of annexation to the United States, but the treaty failed in the Senate.



**275. The French West Indies.** The French West Indies consist of Guadeloupe, Martinique, and their dependencies, including the outlying islands of St. Barthélemy and half the island of St. Martin. It is a fact worthy of note that all the islands—Danish, Dutch, and French—between Culebra and Guadeloupe are English-speaking; while all the islands from Guadeloupe south are French-speaking, except Barbados.

The leading export crops of the islands are sugar, coffee, and cocoa.

The French islands have fared somewhat better commercially than the English, as their products are protected in the French market. Yet they have suffered like all the others from the division of the West Indies among several European nations, which hinders inter-island trade, and from the lack of free trade with the United States, their natural market.

The French steamship line and the French navy make their West Indian headquarters at Fort de France, on a broad but shallow bay. There is also a fortified naval station inclosed by small islands near Guadeloupe.

**276. The Danish West Indies.** The Danish West Indies consist of three islands near Porto Rico. St. Croix still produces sugar, while St. Thomas and St. John are interested in live-stock products. St. Thomas is "the keystone of the Antillean arch." Lying on the Anegada Passage, the most direct route from Europe, it is the cable, coaling, and commercial center of the eastern Caribbean. Its harbor is, moreover, secure, backed by towering ridges and could easily be made impregnable.

The United States has twice sought to buy the Danish West Indies.<sup>1</sup> After the failure of the last attempt, the Hamburg-American steamship line acquired important holdings in St. Thomas, establishing there its West Indian headquarters.

**277. The Dutch West Indies.** The Dutch West Indies include two widely-separated groups, both English-speaking.

<sup>1</sup>The first treaty, negotiated by Seward, was defeated in Congress (1867); the second failed of ratification by Denmark (1902).

One consists of St. Eustatius (which served as a depot of supplies for the Americans during the Revolution), Saba, and half of St. Martin—all near Porto Rico; the other includes Curaçao and two adjacent islands off the Venezuelan coast. The latter group produces chiefly salt, phosphates, and goat-skins.

"Spotless Curaçao." the cleanest place in the West Indies, is remarkably healthful as it lies outside the belt of heavy



FIG. 179. *Harbor of Curaçao. The vessel has just come through the narrow entrance at the right, while beyond is a fort crowning the hill.*

coastal rains, and it has a splendid landlocked harbor, with deep water close to the shore. (Fig. 179.) This is the great center of transit trade with the ports of South America on the Caribbean. Moreover, naval authorities have pointed out that it commands all routes to Panama passing east or south of Porto Rico.<sup>1</sup>

Once the Panama Canal is open, all the West Indies, and more especially the Danish and Dutch islands, will thus lie not on a back eddy but on a main current of the world's commerce.

<sup>1</sup>See Mahan, *Interest of America in Sea Power*, and Rear Admiral Bradford, in the *Forum*, Feb., 1899.

## XIX—TROPICAL SOUTH AMERICA

**278. South America as a Whole.** On a globe South America appears like North America shorn of its peninsulas, islands, and gulfs. It has, like North America, three mountain systems, the Guiana Mountains corresponding to the Laurentian Highland; and two great rivers, the Amazon, corresponding in position to the St. Lawrence, and the La Plata, to the Mississippi. (Fig. 181.)

The interior plain in South America is, however, lower than in North America, while the Andes are both higher and steeper than the Rockies. South America, has, in fact, a larger proportion (42 per cent) of lowlands under 600 feet elevation, and a larger proportion (6 per cent) of highlands above 10,000 feet, than any other continent.

In consequence of the vast extent of the lowlands, the Atlantic rivers are generally navigable for long distances. In this respect South America is more favored than any other continent. On the other hand, the great elevation and the abrupt slopes of the Andes render them an almost insuperable obstacle to commerce by land, while the practically unbroken coast line, especially on the Pacific Ocean, is not favorable to commerce by sea.

**279. The Climate of Tropical South America.** In respect to size South America is but little inferior to North America. Owing to great differences in latitude and elevation, South America is a "country of all climates."

The equatorial belt of calms and heavy rains crosses South America. On the eastern slope of the Andes near the equator it is said to "rain thirteen months in the year." On both sides of the doldrums, the subequatorial zones are well developed, being marked by belts of grasslands wherever the surface is level (llanos, campos). The trade winds, however, encountering highlands as they move inland, are rain-bearing in place

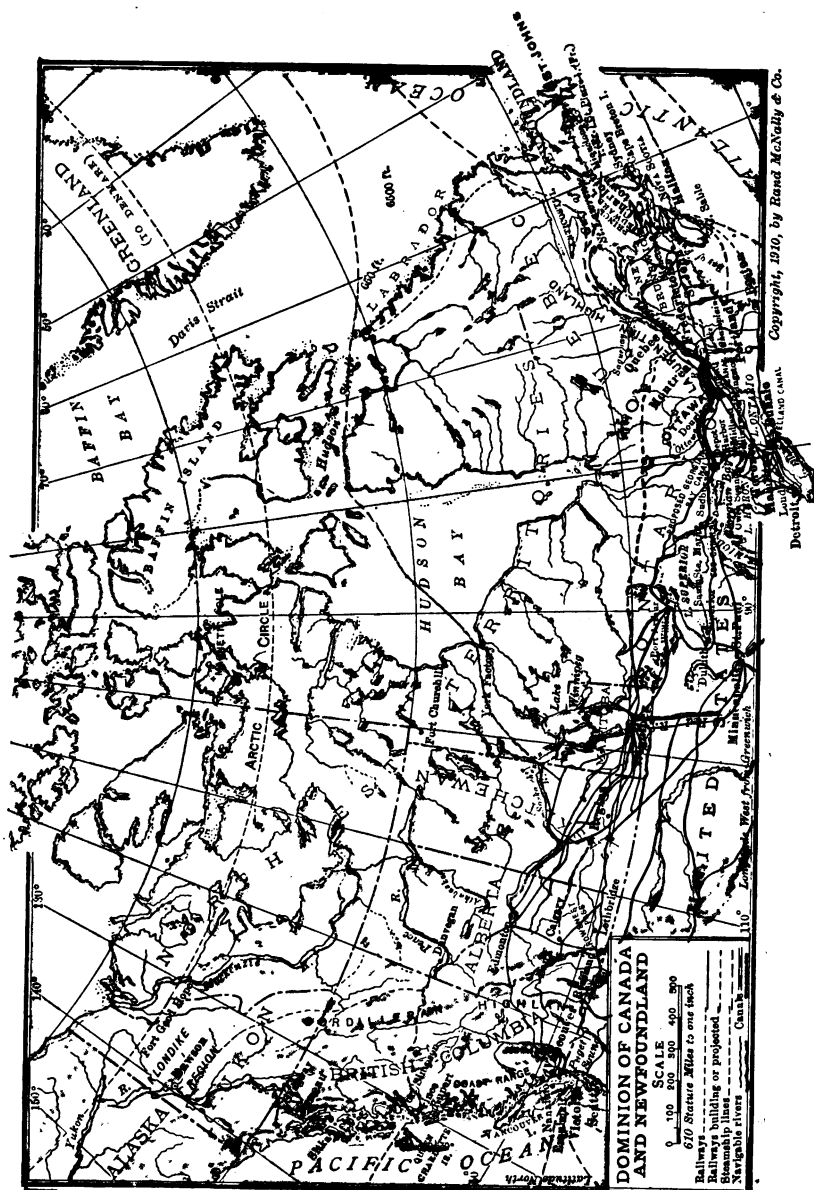


FIG 180 Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland.



of drying winds, as far west as the crest of the Andes. The only extensive trade-wind desert in South America is thus west of the Andes ( $5^{\circ}$ – $30^{\circ}$ ) where the wind descends from the mountains. (§44 and §51.)

Being broadest near the equator, four-fifths of South America lies within the Tropics.

In the Andean region, however, there are numerous mountain-girt plateaus, like the one in Mexico, which are temperate or even frigid because of elevation.<sup>1</sup> They are also very fertile, being usually floored with waste from the neighboring mountains. These plateaus were the seats of the Inca and other native civilizations. There, too, the Spaniards, a mountain-loving people, largely fixed their abodes; for civilization seems to climb the mountain sides as you go toward the equator. For centuries, however, these plateaus were, and in large part they still are, inaccessible except on mule-back. This fact

65%	10%	25%
Indians and half-breeds	Negroes	Whites

Data from Chisholm, Handbook

FIG. 183. *Population of South America by races.*

has rendered them a "land of yesterday," where a crooked stick still serves for a plow, and commerce in the modern sense is impossible.

**280. The Inhabitants of South America.** People as well as crops vary with the climate. Nowhere is this fact more strikingly shown than in South America. Nebraska differs little more from Nicaragua in all that pertains to energy, industry, and commerce, than Chile differs from Colombia, or Argentina from tropical Brazil.

<sup>1</sup>The average elevations of the chief Andean plateaus are: Carácas, 3,000 feet; Bogotá, 8,700; Quito, 9,500; Cuzco, 11,500; Titicaca or La Paz, 12,500; Cochabamba, 8,000. The mountains inclosing these plateaus consist of two main chains from the southern Tropic to the mountain knot of Pasto in latitude  $1^{\circ}$  N.; and three chains thence to Bogotá, where the eastern chain subdivides, and sends off the Venezuelan coast range to the eastward, making four in all.

To the influence of climate is added the influence of race. (Fig. 183.) Wherever the Indians were sufficiently accustomed to labor to make valuable slaves, as they were on the Andean plateaus, the Spaniards became merely a ruling class which rapidly blended with the subject race, as in Mexico. The Andean countries are, therefore, almost solidly Indian in population. Along the Caribbean and in tropical Brazil, again, where the Indians were too weak or intractable to be useful as slaves, negroes were imported as in the West Indies; and the people are now an indescribable mixture of red, white, and black, with the black predominating.

Throughout temperate South America, on the other hand, the population is almost exclusively white. The pampas Indians, being hunters, were neither numerous nor useful as slaves; and there was no industry there in colonial days calling for negro labor. Argentina, Uruguay, and southern Brazil thus have even a smaller proportion of colored inhabitants than New England.

In point of language, all South America is Spanish except Brazil which is Portuguese, and the three Guianas which use the languages of the home countries. In addition, educated people in all parts of America south of the United States almost universally understand and speak French, the language of the greatest Latin nation.

**281. Grasslands of Tropical South America.** The llanos and campos are natural cattle ranges. The Orinoco region, having river transportation, is already a serious factor in commerce. On the Brazilian Plateau, on the western or dry side of the Atlantic mountains, stock raising is likewise the dominant industry south of  $12^{\circ}$  or even  $10^{\circ}$  S. latitude, especially in the great state of Rio Grande do Sul.

The Andean plateaus, which reach 400 miles in width, and in many places rise above the timber line, are adapted to sheep, llamas, and alpacas. Some hides and wool from these animals, and from the wild vicuñas and guanacos, are sent to the coast for export.

**282. Forest Products of Tropical South America.** With the exception of these grasslands, and the Pacific coast between latitude  $5^{\circ}$  and  $35^{\circ}$  S., which is arid, practically all of tropical South America bears heavy forests. In many places the jungles are so dense that the rivers are the only possible roads.

The most valuable forest products are rubber, balata, and ivory nuts. Ivory nuts have a very hard, white meat which is often substituted for animal ivory.

There are also, in addition to the usual cabinet and dye-woods (§263), several other valuable forest products in this region. Piassava, a kind of rush, is employed for brooms. The wax of the carnauba palm serves for candles. Brazil nuts, known to commerce as "Pará chestnuts," are extensively exported to Europe and North America. Tonka beans are employed in perfumes. Brazil wood yields a brilliant red dye. Divi-divi pods are an effective tanning agent. Finally,

there are innumerable medicinal substances, including sarsaparilla, several varieties of balsam,<sup>1</sup> cinchona, and cocoa.

Cinchona or Peruvian bark yields quinine, a drug invaluable for malaria; and the coca tree yields cocaine, used in surgery. Both of these trees are native to the Andes, cinchona on the



Courtesy of Dept. of Agriculture

FIG. 184. *Tapping a rubber tree.*

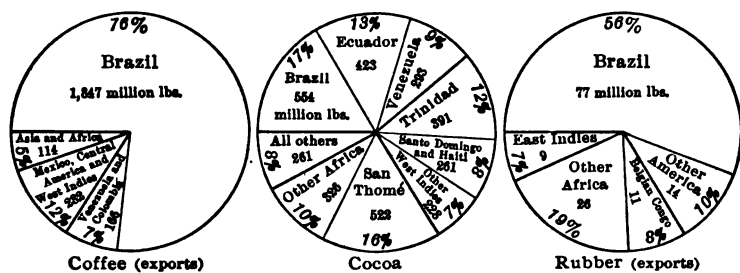
<sup>1</sup>Chiefly balsam copaiba and tolu.



western and coca on the eastern slopes, where plantations have been established to supplement the wild supply. (Fig. 218.)

**283. The Rubber Industry in South America.** Rubber, which has become indispensable in almost innumerable manufactures (§107), is one of the greatest commercial staples of tropical South America, especially of the Amazon Basin, where it is still chiefly obtained from wild trees. (Figs 184 and 185.) It occurs in the sap, from which it is separated by coagulation.

The best grade, known as Pará from the place of export, comes from several species of trees (*Heveas*) growing where the annual rainfall is 100 inches and upward well distributed



Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907, and Bull., Int. Bureau of Am. Rep., 1907

FIG. 185. *Staple products of tropical South America. Totals (millions of pounds): coffee exports less re-exports, 2,409 in 1906; cocoa crops, 3,259 in 1907; rubber exports, 137 in 1906.*

throughout the year, and the annual temperature is about 80°. These flourish on lowlands and slopes up to 2,000 feet elevation.<sup>1</sup> Maniçoba rubber, also called Ceará from a state in Brazil, comes from a tree related to the cassava plant. This tree is at home on stony or sandy soils where the rainfall is moderate. A third grade of rubber, Mangabeira, from a tree accustomed to a distinct dry season, reaches the market mainly through the port of Pernambuco. Finally, an inferior rubber, Caucho, is derived from still a different tree, native to Central America and the western coast of South America as far south as Peru. It is a lowland but not a swamp tree, and like the others named, cannot stand temperatures below 60° F.

<sup>1</sup>Freeman and Chandler, *The World's Commercial Products*, p. 282.

Balata, obtained from a tree native to the Caribbean slope, is a substitute for gutta-percha.

**284. The Crops of Tropical South America.** The staple food crops on the lowlands are rice and manioc or cassava, a root crop which takes the place of potatoes in this part of the Tropics. Both are also exported to some extent; the manioc chiefly in the form of mandioca (manioc flour) or tapioca. At medium elevations the food crops are, as in Mexico, corn and beans; while on the cold Andean plateaus, wheat matures up to 10,000 feet, barley, quinoa (a cereal peculiar to the Andes), and potatoes to 13,000 feet. Some estates in Bolivia on the



FIG. 186 *Picking coffee near São Paulo.*

mountain sides produce the crops of all three zones; but in general the lowlands can obtain wheat from abroad more cheaply than it can be carried down the mountains on mule-back.

The most important export crop is coffee (Fig. 186), which is grown on the middle slopes (1,000 to 1,500 feet elevation) around Rio de Janeiro and Santos, and again at higher elevations (up to 6,000 feet) from Carácas to Bogotá. Next in rank is cocoa, grown at lower elevations (under 1,500 feet) in Ecuador, in Brazil around Bahia, and also in the Carácas district. Brazil furnishes the largest portion though not the best grade of the world's coffee and cocoa. Ecuador, where cocoa is indigenous, also has a large production of cocoa. (Fig. 187.)

Under the name of "valorization" of coffee, Brazil has established a government coffee trust, the intent and the effect being to compel foreign nations (that is, chiefly the United States, the principal market for low-grade coffees), to pay an artificial monopoly price for coffee. This emphasizes the desirability of developing the coffee industry in the islands belonging to the United States to prevent such extortion.



FIG. 187. *Gathering cocoa pods in Ecuador.*

Other crops of considerable value are cotton and sugar exported from Pernambuco and also from the irrigated coast valleys of Peru in the same latitude. "Peruvian rough" cotton from the Piura Valley is especially adapted for mixing with wool. Tobacco is exported chiefly from the Bahia district in Brazil, the crop elsewhere serving local use. The bulk of the

Brazilian tobacco crop is grown in the great interior valley of the São Francisco. Some bananas and cocoanuts reach the United States from Colombia.

**285. Mineral Resources of Tropical South America.** All three mountain systems abound in metals. The silver mines of Potosi and Cerro de Pasco for centuries produced fabulous sums; yet the surface has hardly been scratched, and the old dump piles still carry more silver than many paying ores in the United States. Tin is largely mined in the Oruro district of Bolivia (Fig. 219); copper at Cerro de Pasco in Peru, where silver is now a by-product; and manganese in Brazil. (Fig. 223.) Gold is widely distributed. Important gold fields have recently been opened in Guiana, where tradition placed El Dorado, the Gilded Man.

Diamonds came chiefly from Brazil before the discovery of the South African deposits, and Brazil is still an important source of colored stones, especially tourmalines. Emerald deposits near Bogotá, which originally led to the Spanish conquest of that section, still supply most of the world's emeralds. Pearl beds also occur near the Venezuelan coast.

Coal and iron, the foundations of modern industry, do not fit into the plan of life in tropical South America, where people are still in large measure children of nature, content to exist on the spontaneous products of the earth. Important coal fields, however, exist in southern Brazil; others, apparently of no great size, are found along the Caribbean and in all the Andean states. Near Bogotá, where coal, iron, and limestone lie side by side as in Alabama, only a little iron is smelted.

Petroleum wells are in operation near Payta, and crude oil serves as fuel on some of the railways in Peru. The oil field is said to extend along the sea for a hundred or more miles. Asphaltum, formed by petroleum long exposed to the air, is very abundant in Venezuela.

Monazite, used in Welsbach gas mantles, is exported from Brazil, and guano from arid islands adjacent to Peru.

**286. Manufactures in Tropical South America.** In view of the primitive mode of life, most common articles are made by hand, for example, pottery and leather goods. Panama hats, so called because shipped through Panama, are plaited by Indians in Ecuador from the leaves of a screw pine. Some cotton mills, however, are at work in Peru and Brazil. The latter country has tried to start other industries, such as flour milling and shoe making, by means of a high protective tariff which raises the prices obtained by manufacturers.



FIG. 188. *Llamas in Peru, waiting for their loads.*

In each of the mountain systems there is enormous water power waiting to be harnessed. For example, the descent near La Paz (The Pass), the commercial center of Bolivia, is 10,000 feet in a few miles. Water power is naturally most abundant along the mighty eastern wall of the Andes, but this region is at present almost uninhabited.

**287. Internal Transportation in Tropical South America.** Only a neglected and dangerous mule path, where a mounted

postman is said to have been drowned in mud, connected (until 1908) Quito, the capital of Ecuador, with its port of Guayaquil. This is a fair sample of transportation facilities away from the rivers and railways. In Peru and Bolivia, the llama (Fig. 188), donkey, and mule are the usual beasts of burden from the railways back into the interior.

The Pacific streams, being short and rapid, are useless for navigation. The Orinoco on the other hand is navigable to Cabuyaro, less than eighty miles in a direct line from Bogotá; and the Amazon is navigable for seagoing vessels to Iquitos in Peru, while smaller vessels reach a point (Pongo de Manseriche) within 450 miles of the Pacific. Two-thirds of South America lies in the valleys of the Orinoco, Amazon, and La Plata, and these valleys are separated by barely perceptible water partings. It is in fact possible to pass by boat from the Orinoco system into the Amazon.

In numerous places, short railways run inland from the ports to bring out the crops; and in the chief coffee districts around Rio de Janeiro and Carácas these lines form connected systems.

In Ecuador, a railway now extends from Guayaquil to Quito, and in Peru two railways cross the western Andes above the clouds.<sup>1</sup> The Lima-Oroya line is the highest standard gauge railway in the world (14,666 feet); and the Mollendo line connects with steamers on Lake Titicaca, a sheet of water nearly the size of Lake Erie, and these again connect with a railway for La Paz. All the north and south lines on the Andean plateau form links in the great Pan-American Railway between New York and Buenos Aires, which is in the way of becoming an accomplished fact.<sup>2</sup> Bolivia has undertaken to unite the several lines on the plateau, and also to connect La Paz with the navigable Beni, while Brazil has begun a line around the

<sup>1</sup>Another is projected to run from Payta, Peru, over the lowest pass (7,170 feet) in the central Andes, to Pongo de Manseriche (about 450 miles), the head of navigation on the Amazon.

<sup>2</sup>Pepper, *Report on the Pan-American Railway*, shows that in 1903 only 4,700 miles were lacking, and that many links were building.

falls of the Madeira, in order to open another outlet for the commerce of Bolivia—the landlocked Tibet of South America.

**288. The Principal Ports of Tropical South America.** The Caribbean coast of South America is somewhat broken by spurs of the Andes projecting into the sea. The leading ports on the Caribbean are Georgetown in the Guianas; La Guaira, which is the port of Carácas, on an artificial harbor; Puerto Cabello, the port of Valencia, on a fine natural harbor;<sup>1</sup> and finally, Barranquilla and Cartagena, the rival outlets of the Magdalena River, which forms the great highway



Courtesy of International Bureau of Republics

FIG. 189. *View of the harbor of Rio de Janeiro, showing its landlocked character*

into the interior<sup>2</sup> of Colombia. Both rely on railways to get goods to and from the river, as the delta is not navigable, but Cartagena has the only safe harbor.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Others are Guanta, the port of Barcelona; Tucacas, the port of Barquisimeto; Maracaibo, which is, however, cut off from the sea by a shallow bar; Santa Marta, the port of a banana district; and Ciudad Bolivar, on the Orinoco.

<sup>2</sup>As far as La Dorada, some 600 miles up; and again on the upper river above Honda. The rapids above La Dorada are passed by rail; and another line connects the head of navigation on the upper river with Bogotá.

<sup>3</sup>Cartagena is on the coast; Barranquilla is on the river. Barranquilla ships goods by rail to Sabanilla (Port Colombia), an exposed roadstead where they are transferred to vessels.

On the Atlantic coast there are deep bays at Bahia, the ancient capital of Brazil, and at Rio de Janeiro, the capital and metropolis of Brazil and the second city in South America. (Fig. 189.) Bahia is the terminus of a railway which connects with the navigable São Francisco River above the falls. Pernambuco is fairly sheltered by a coral reef, whence is derived its other name Recife. Santos, a river port, is the principal shipping point for coffee, by virtue of its position near the coffee district; and it may in time supplant Rio as the commercial center of Brazil. These four are the chief Brazilian seaports. On the Amazon there are two important rubber ports, Pará (Belem) and Manaos, the latter a thousand miles inland like Montreal. Ceará also ships some rubber.

On the Pacific the only considerable inlet is at Guayaquil, where a bay breaks through the coast range. Another small bay at Buenaventura will be the natural outlet of the densely-peopled Cauca Valley, whenever the railroad is completed from Buenaventura to the Cauca River. The other harbors on the Pacific are merely roadsteads very imperfectly sheltered by small islands or projecting points of land. Such is Callao, the port of Lima and the chief port of Peru.

Islands of any considerable size are conspicuous by their absence on the Pacific coast, the only group being the Galápagos (3,170 square miles).<sup>1</sup> They are of volcanic origin and barren near the sea but inclose several deep, well-sheltered anchorages, and are said by naval authorities to offer the only feasible site for a coaling and naval station on routes from south of the equator to the Panama Canal.

<sup>1</sup>Here Captain Porter made his headquarters for a time during his famous cruise in the "Essex" (1813). A colony was later established (1832) by an American, named Vilomil, from Louisiana. During the Harrison administration, Mr. Blaine tried to secure a coaling station on the Galápagos Islands. Though claimed by Ecuador, these islands are practically unoccupied.



## XX—TEMPERATE SOUTH AMERICA

### 289. Physical Features of Temperate South America.

Temperate South America embraces most of the four southern countries. The three southern states of Brazil also have more in common with Argentina than with tropical Brazil.

The temperate region east of the Andes is a vast plain, except in southern Brazil, which is an elevated plateau traversed by low mountains. Chile, comprising the southern Pacific slope, is equal in area to all the Atlantic states north of the Carolinas. It consists, like California, chiefly of a great valley; but the Chilean Coast Range, unlike the Californian, is pierced by many rivers which open pathways for railroads from the interior to the sea. (Fig. 181.)

**290. Climate of Temperate South America.** Being in the southern hemisphere, the climate is hot toward the north, cold toward the south, and midwinter in Argentina is midsummer in the United States. Chile is thus a reversed copy of the Pacific coast of North America from Lower California to Alaska, while Argentina corresponds to the region from central Mexico to Hudson Bay. The tapering form of the continent with a cold ocean current on the west and a warm current on the east, narrows the belt of temperate climate to practically ten degrees of latitude ( $30^{\circ}$  to  $40^{\circ}$ ). For this reason Buenos Aires, in the latitude of Memphis, has substantially the climate of New Orleans, while Valdivia, not far from the latitude of San Francisco, has the climate of Sitka.

Abundant rainfall (forty inches or more) is brought by the prevailing trade wind in northeastern Argentina, and also by the prevailing westerlies in Chile south of Concepcion; but most of Argentina south of  $35^{\circ}$  (that is, in the zone of prevailing westerlies), since it lies in the lee of the Andes, is too dry for tillage, and in parts too dry even for pasturage. (Fig. 15.) South of  $40^{\circ}$  however, where the mountains are

lower and the west winds stronger, there are some grasslands and even patches of timber in the lake district along the eastern base of the Andes.

**291. Forests of Temperate South America.** As a result of this distribution of rainfall, there are two important forest areas in temperate South America: Paraguay and northern Argentina, where the forest is subtropical in character; and southern Chile, south of Concepcion, which is pine-clad. The most valuable subtropical wood is quebracho, whose bark is a powerful tanning agent, while the wood itself rivals teak in durability. Chile also exports considerable gum (*goma brea*) used in mucilage. In spite of these forests, pine lumber is largely shipped from North America to Chile.

In the colder districts, both on the Andean plateaus and toward the south of Chile, is found the chinchilla, a small animal yielding a valuable fur.

**292. Stock-raising in Temperate South America.** South of about 30° S., the rainfall on the plains east of the Andes Mountains is insufficient to support forests. These plains in Uruguay and Argentina are natural grasslands, or pampas. The chief industry is consequently the raising of stock, especially cattle. In recent years the dairy industry has made considerable progress in Argentina, where improved breeds of cattle have been introduced. Argentina also ranks high in the number of sheep, though they are rather of the mutton than the wool type. (Fig. 39.) Both in Uruguay and Argentina the Spanish element, true to its traditions, prefers pastoral pursuits, especially as refrigerator ships have made the stock industry very profitable.

In central Chile the foothills and the higher mountain valleys serve as pastures. South of Puerto Montt, in the belt of stormy westerlies, where the weather is so cloudy that even barley will not ripen, sheep are the main resource, supplemented by lumber, fish, and chinchilla fur. For the same reason, the Falkland Islands lying to the east of the Strait of Magellan are exclusively sheep runs.

**293. Crops of Temperate South America.** Maté or Paraguay tea is the most important product of a large district where Paraguay, Argentina, and Brazil meet. It is the leaf of an indigenous tree, which grows wild, and is extensively used throughout South America in place of coffee or tea. Other products are oranges and tobacco in Paraguay, and sugar cane around Tucuman in northern Argentina.

West of about  $64^{\circ}$  in Argentina, the rainfall is less than twenty inches, as in the Great Plains region of the United States. The same condition also exists in Chile north of about  $35^{\circ}$ , just as in southern California. Agriculture in these districts is consequently limited in the main to irrigated areas. On the Andean foothills, both in Chile and Argentina, between  $30^{\circ}$  and  $35^{\circ}$ , irrigated vineyards and orchards have been planted, largely by French and Italians. During the season special fast fruit trains run from Mendoza to Buenos Aires.

42%	35%	9%	4%	10%
Argentina 106 million bushels	United States 86	Roumania 83	Russia 10	All others 25

Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907

FIG. 190. *Exports of corn including corn meal*  
Total in 1906: 250 million bushels.

Outside these arid belts, field crops have made considerable progress, both in Chile and Argentina, though little in Uruguay, notwithstanding it is the best watered. The most important are wheat, corn (Fig. 43), and alfalfa, the latter a forage crop which is fed to stock. Potatoes and barley are also grown in Chile, and flaxseed in Argentina. (Fig. 97.) The principal grain-growing district lies east of Córdoba in Argentina, between  $30^{\circ}$  and  $35^{\circ}$  of latitude. The export of wheat and corn (Fig. 190) from this region is a large item in international commerce, though only an insignificant part of the arable land has passed under the plow. In the future, when the food products of the United States are mostly consumed at home, Canada, Argentina, and Siberia will be the granaries of the world.

Agriculture is still, however, for the most part carried on by recent European immigrants; in Uruguay, where there are few immigrants, there is little agriculture. The greatest obstacle to its rapid development is the aristocratic organization of society. Throughout Latin America a few wealthy families own all the good land and hold the mass of the people in utter subjection, ruling their estates like feudal lords.

#### **294. Mineral Products of Temperate South America.**

Several gold and copper mines are in operation around Rioja; the south Brazilian coal field extends into Uruguay; and another coal field, associated with petroleum, lies along the eastern flank of the Andes near Mendoza. As yet, however, owing to the distance of these deposits from the centers of population, and the lack of transportation facilities, the mineral output of Uruguay and Argentina is insignificant.

Chile, on the other hand, abounds in minerals, which furnish her chief exports. The principal copper-producing district in South America (Fig. 138) lies along the base of the Andes, especially between Copiapó and Santiago, the ore in places carrying also gold and silver. Coal fields line the coast for a hundred miles around Coronel, the chief coal port. This coal is the best hitherto mined in South America, and lies near deposits of iron ore. It is still true, however, that Chile burns more coal than she mines. Finally, by the war with Bolivia and Peru, Chile acquired (1884) the Atacama Desert, which is amazingly rich in minerals, especially nitrate salts.

The success of Chile in this war was no doubt due to the character of her people, recruited from the northwestern provinces of Spain and inheriting their "energetic and warlike temperament." Peru on the other hand was settled mainly by a softer stock from Andalusia, and it lies within the Tropics. The nitrate trade has now made Chile rich and doubly powerful, a nation feared by all her neighbors. She has introduced universal military service and aspires to play the role of Germany in South America.

**295. The Nitrate Industry.** Of the three elements often lacking in soils (§117), nitrogen is, next to phosphorus, the element most easily exhausted and most difficult to restore. This fact explains the great importance to the world of the Chilean nitrate of soda deposits. Their origin is uncertain, but however formed they have been preserved through the ages by the dryness of the climate.

The industry is carried on by foreign, largely English, capital and native labor, and is controlled by a "trust" which effectively eliminates competition and maintains prices at the point of maximum net profit to the producers. An export tax on nitrates is the chief source of revenue for the Chilean government.

The bulk of the nitrate exports goes to Europe, where the soil is farmed intensively. This trade, giving cheap return freight on goods from Europe, is one cause of European predominance in South American markets.

**296. Manufactures of Temperate South America.** Temperate South America, like the tropical section, is still in the "extractive" stage of industry; that is, engaged in furnishing food and such raw materials as wool, hides, and minerals. Manufactures have, however, made some progress, employing chiefly native raw materials. Examples are: the preparation of beef extract at Fray Bentos in Uruguay, and of *tasajo* or jerked beef; likewise the grinding of wheat, the refining of sugar, the tanning of leather, and the weaving of coarse woollens in various cities.

Chile, moreover, having coal near the sea, and many swift rivers descending from the Andes, enjoys marked advantages for manufacturing. She has, already, modern steel works at Corral near Valdivia, where iron ore occurs, and copper smelters at Coronel. In addition, there are chemical works producing iodine and borate of lime, in connection with the nitrate industry.

**297. Internal Transportation in Temperate South America.** The La Plata system offers several thousand miles of river

navigation. The Uruguay River is, indeed, broken no great distance inland at Salto (the Falls); but the Paraguay is navigable to Cuyabá in Brazil, forming the only outlet of a vast region. It is especially important for the shipment of wheat from Argentina.

Wheeled traffic is practically confined to the plains, pack animals being used in the mountains.

The level surface of the pampas favors railroad construction. In Argentina, especially, the railroad system is already extensive and rapidly growing. One trunk line traversing a tunnel under the Uspallata Pass<sup>1</sup>, connects with the Chilean railroads, thus saving ten days over the route by sea between Buenos Aires and Valparaiso. Another road extends southwest to the foothills of the Andes, toward the lake district of Argentina, where a low pass<sup>2</sup> opposite Valdivia offers another and easier route to the Pacific. A third line, undertaken according to a treaty with Bolivia, climbs the Bolivian Plateau from Jujuy, and will eventually connect with the Antofagasta line at Uyuni, thus forming a link in the Pan-American Railway.<sup>3</sup>

Smaller railway systems exist in Uruguay and Paraguay, which will be connected with the Argentine lines.

The railways of Chile are mainly short lines running down the river valleys from the Andes to the sea; but a longitudinal railway, already completed through the central provinces, has been ordered built from Arica to Puerto Montt. The line from Antofagasta crosses the western divide of the Andes to the Bolivian Plateau; at the same time a more direct line, to extend from Arica to La Paz, has been provided for by treaty. This is intended to maintain control of Bolivian commerce in spite of the Argentine line; and its commercial value will be increased by the Panama Canal. Whatever nation

<sup>1</sup>Uspallata Pass, 12,795 feet elevation. The line is 893 miles long from Buenos Aires to Valparaiso, reaching an elevation of 10,365 feet.

<sup>2</sup>The Bariloche, only 2,760 feet elevation.

<sup>3</sup>Reaching the plateau through Tres Cruces Pass, elevation 12,215 feet. Part of the way cogged rails have to be used.

dominates the Bolivian Plateau will have made a long stride toward a controlling position in South America.

**298. The United States of South America.** The map of South America is not fixed for all time; for with every day that passes the present political condition, based on the difficulties of travel and transportation before the days of steam, becomes more of a burden to commerce. The marshy and torrid valley of the Amazon, and the towering masses of the Andes, do indeed form natural boundaries; but the political divisions existing in temperate South America, east of the Andes, are wholly unnatural. Railways are the advance agents of conquest, commercial and, in the end, political. The extension of the Argentine railways must, therefore, tend to draw Paraguay and Uruguay into the Argentine sphere of influence. Neither of these countries has, in fact, any good reason for separate existence, and both would profit commercially by inclusion in Argentina, the United States of South America.

**299. The Chief Centers of Commerce in Temperate South America.** The Atlantic coast is sandy south of Santos and lacks first-class natural harbors.

Rio Grande do Sul and Porto Alegre, the ports of southern Brazil (both situated on a great lagoon) are cut off from the sea by a bar carrying only a few feet of water. The La Plata estuary is wide, shallow, and entirely unprotected by nature; here, however, centers most of the foreign commerce. Montevideo is the natural outlet of the country between the Uruguay River and the sea, being separated by a wide estuary from Argentina. Buenos Aires (Fig. 191), by far the largest city in South America, and exceeded in size by only three in the United States, is the chief port of Argentina. It has now secured a fine artificial harbor, and the completion of the railways to Chile and Bolivia will render it the commercial center of nearly all temperate South America. An "out-port" has also been built at La Plata for the larger vessels. The principal river ports are Rosario in the wheat belt,

accessible to ocean vessels of moderate draft, and Asuncion in Paraguay. Bahia Blanca, on the best natural harbor in Argentina, also has a rapidly-growing trade with Europe.

Most of the commerce of Chile passes through three ports: Iquique, the principal nitrate port; Antofagasta, the Chilean port of Bolivia; and Valparaiso (Paradise Valley), the port of the capital, Santiago. All are exposed roadsteads and often storm-swept.<sup>1</sup> The fiord-like southern coast of Chile has many harbors but, owing to the broken surface and



FIG. 191. *Modern wheat elevator in Buenos Aires.*

unfavorable climate, the land is relatively unproductive. Punta Arenas, in the Strait of Magellan, is however an important coaling station.

Great Britain, with her usual foresight or good luck, secured in the Falkland Islands a site for another coaling station adjacent to the Strait of Magellan.

**300. Commercial Relations of South America.** South America exports chiefly coffee, rubber, wool, hides, metals, and other raw materials, besides foodstuffs; and imports

<sup>1</sup>In 1903, for example, the fine steamer "Arequipa" was lost in Valparaiso Harbor with nearly a hundred on board.



mostly manufactured goods, especially textiles and steel wares, such as are made in the United States, also foodstuffs in the tropical section.

The United States has signally failed to make headway against England or Germany in South America. This is shown by the fact that the share of the United States in South American trade, except on the Caribbean, is not much over a tenth of the total. (Fig. 192.) Moreover, the trade of the United States in South America has developed very little in thirty years, and during that time the United States has

	53%	23%	4%	3%	17%
<i>Exports by articles.....</i>	Coffee 139 million dollars	Rubber 62	Cocoa 10	Latex 1	All others 44

	30%	15%	13%	9%	9%	6%	18%
<i>Imports by countries.....</i>	From Great Britain 59 million dollars	Germany 30	United States 25	France 18	Argentina 18	Portugal 11	All others 36

Data from Consular Reports, Ann. No. 51

#### a. Commerce of Brazil

	42%	28%	12%	18%
<i>Exports by articles.....</i>	Animal products 124 million dollars	Wheat 83	Linseed 36	All others 53

	34%	16%	14%	9%	8%	19%
<i>Imports by countries.....</i>	From Great Britain 98 million dollars	Germany 46	United States 39	France 26	Italy 24	All others 54

Data from International Bureau, Am. Rep. Bul., May, 1907

#### b. Commerce of Argentina.

FIG. 192. *Commerce of Brazil and Argentina. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): Brazil, exports 263 (32% to U.S.); imports 197, largely coal, lumber, flour, and manufactures: Argentina, exports 296 (largely to Europe); imports 286, mostly textiles, railway plant and agricultural implements.*

bought in South America nearly two billion dollars worth of goods more than it has sold there. In fact, the United States sold in 1908 twice as much to Canada as to the whole continent of South America. (Tables 4 and 6.)

One reason is geographic. South America should rightfully be called East America, from the fact that it lies entirely east of Florida. A sailing vessel from Hamburg, coming with the northeast trade wind, has an advantage of some ten days over a ship from New York. Another reason is that sentiment in South America favors Europe, owing to the many European firms and the millions of European immigrants settled there. Again, American business methods are at fault. Catalogues in English are sent in place of agents,



FIG. 193. *Steel pier at Balboa, the Pacific terminus of the Panama Canal.*

and to places where English is unknown; goods are put in large boxes for districts where pack mules are the only means of transportation; no credit is given, because there is in most places no American bank or agency to report who is worthy of credit; and American consuls sometimes lament the loss of promising markets by downright fraud on the part of the sellers. Finally, American manufacturers have been so busy making goods for the home market, where they enjoyed a practical monopoly through the protective tariff, that they felt little

inclination to enter foreign markets, where they would have to sell their goods at competitive prices.

In striking contrast to such methods is the procedure of German exporters. They have organized the German Transoceanic (*Deutsche Ueberseeische*) Bank of Berlin, with branches throughout Central and South America; and they have flooded the country with German agents. These are invariably men of good education, speaking fluently the language of the country and thoroughly posted as to the social customs and exacting etiquette of the Latin-Americans. They do business on a marvelously small margin, giving long credits and pushing German goods always and everywhere.

On account of location, Brazil and all the Atlantic countries will probably remain commercial dependencies of Europe. So far as the Pacific coast is concerned, the geographic advantage now held by Europe will cease when the Panama Canal is opened, for American ports will then be much nearer than European ports. (Fig. 193.) Already the acquisition of the Panama Railroad by the United States has broken up a combination which kept rates across the isthmus so high that American goods could reach Peru more cheaply by way of Germany and Cape Horn than by way of Panama.

Finally, the Pan-American Railway, following the ancient highway of the Incas through the densely-peopled Andean plateaus, will in a measure tend, when completed, to draw the whole of western and of temperate South America within the commercial domain of the United States.

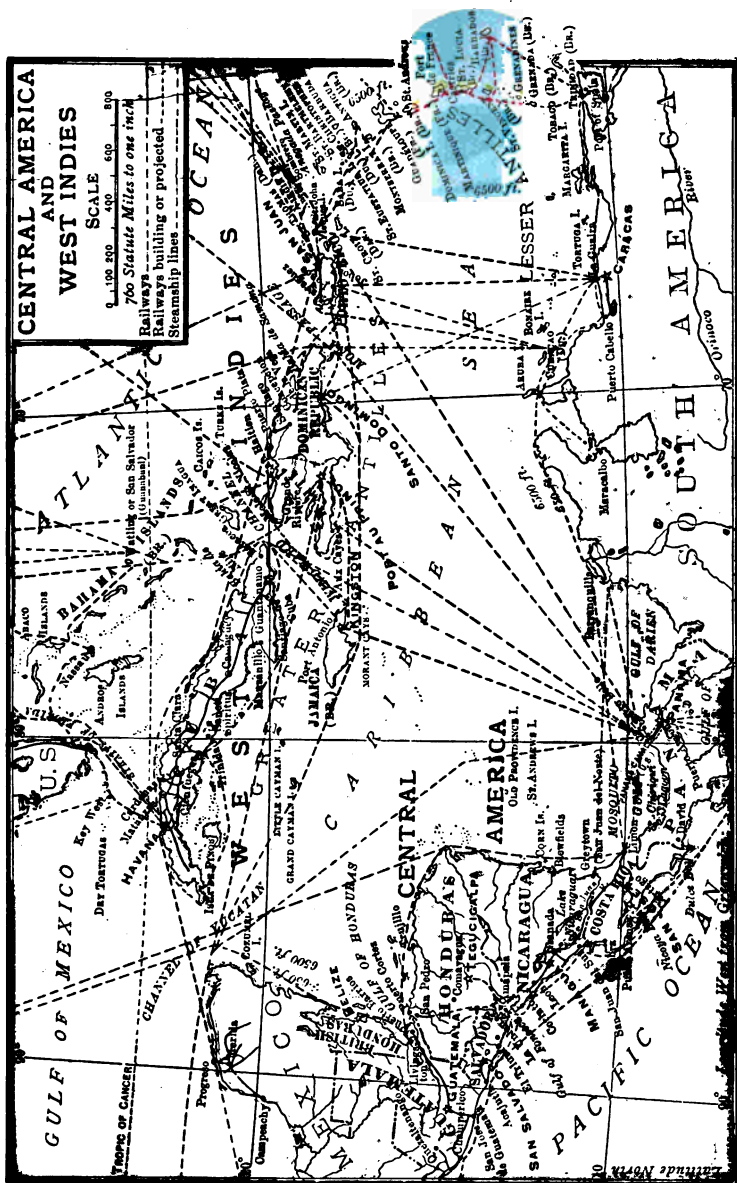


FIG. 194. *Central America and the West Indies*  
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## XXI—OCEANIA AND AUSTRALASIA

**301. The Ocean World.** The greatest of all oceans did not prove an effective barrier to the migrations of men. Long before the first European had crossed that wilderness of waters (Magellan, 1521), the natives of the Pacific isles sailed the seas with no more fear than the Indians roamed the western plains.

The existing races of Oceania, except the whites, came from the west. In the eastern islands are now found the Christianized Polynesians; from Fiji to Flores, the cannibal Melanesians (blacks); from Flores north and west, the Moham-medan Malays. Many people, however, believe that the mysterious monuments scattered over the Pacific, such as the huge images of stone on Easter Island, the remains of a temple on Ponape in the Carolines, and the massive stone pillars on Tinian north of Guam, represent a lost race or at least a lost civilization, destroyed by encroachments of the sea.

In any event, the land in the Pacific has beyond question been slowly sinking for ages. Borings on the Ellice group have gone down over 1,000 feet without finding the bottom of the coral rock; yet it is an undoubted fact that the coral polyp can live and work only near the surface. Moreover, the large islands, such as New Zealand and New Guinea, are shown by their geological structure to be fragments severed from the adjacent continents. It is further evident, from the plants and animals inhabiting the islands, that the first break between Asia and Australia occurred at the deep strait which now separates Bali and Lombok.

The innumerable small islands of Oceania are of two distinct types: "low" and "high," the one of coral and the other of volcanic formation. They lie for the most part in a few chains roughly parallel to the shores of the continents, each chain being the tip of a gigantic wrinkle in the earth's crust.



**302. The Partition of Oceania.** Excluding the islands from New Guinea west, which are mostly Dutch and properly go with Asia, Oceania is now divided among three nations besides the United States. Only the New Hebrides remain under joint French-English control. (Fig. 195.)

After annexing Australia (1788) and New Zealand (1840), England adopted the Cobden theory that Free Trade would soon render colonies useless. This dream enabled France and Germany practically to take their pick of the remaining islands, for the United States, as Captain Mahan says, "had not yet begun to sit up and take notice."

The French dominions spread from three centers: Tahiti (1838), Uea, or Wallis (1844), New Caledonia (1853). Several islands were acquired with express reference to the future Panama Canal.<sup>1</sup> Tahiti, lying on the direct route between Auckland and Panama, will naturally become a port of call corresponding to Hawaii in the north Pacific.

Germany under the lead of Bismarck annexed the Marshall group and part of New Guinea (1885). By the purchase from Spain of the Caroline and Marianne islands (1899), and the partition of Samoa (1900), she acquired a solid block of possessions containing excellent harbors (§228) and commanding all routes across the western Pacific.

**303. The Commerce of Oceania.** The principal commercial products of the "low" or coral islands are copra, together with various substances from the sea, especially pearls and pearl shells, tortoise shells, shark fins, and trepang (*bêche-de-mer*), a hideous sea slug. The last two are alleged delicacies much prized by the Chinese.

These low islands, being in many cases the resort of myriads of sea birds, have yielded much guano, a valuable nitrogenous fertilizer. Some of them also contain immense phosphate

<sup>1</sup>Especially the Marquesas group where Captain Porter had once raised the American flag (1813), and Clipperton Island near the Mexican coast. See *La Politique Française en Océanie* (Paris 1884), by M. Paul Deschanel, former President of the Chamber of Deputies.

deposits, originally derived from guano, and large shipments of phosphates from these islands have recently begun.

The volcanic islands, being lofty, are well watered even in the trade-wind belt. In addition to cocoanuts, sugar cane and bananas are grown in Fiji, cocoa (cacao) in Samoa, vanilla and fruits in Tahiti. These islands are all capable of commercial development. They trade mainly with Sydney, Auckland, and San Francisco.

The continental islands have a still wider range of interests. New Caledonia, lying just within the Tropics like Hawaii, is relatively cool and dry. Its annual rainfall, in fact, is only forty-six inches. New Caledonia consequently has a considerable white population, including some convicts—as the island is a penal station—and produces coffee, cattle, and tobacco. In addition, there are mines of nickel, chrome, and cobalt ores, which constitute its chief exports. New Guinea on the other hand, is only partially explored because of its deadly climate and cannibal inhabitants. The forests, however, furnish sandalwood and rubber. In the English section gold is mined; in the German there are experimental plantations of cotton and tobacco.

The principal commercial centers of Oceania, besides Hawaii, are Yap in the Carolines, which has cable lines to Menádo, Guam, and Shanghai; Tahiti in the Society group and Numea in New Caledonia, both belonging to France; Apia in German Samoa; and Suva in the Fiji Islands, a British possession. Numea is a modern city with electric lights and street cars, and a railway across the island.

**304. British Australasia.** Australia and Tasmania are federated like Canada, while New Zealand remains separate like Newfoundland. The three constitute British Australasia.

The people are almost exclusively of British descent, and they enjoy practically complete self-government. In consequence, their free and devoted loyalty, like that of Canada, is something unique in history. During the Boer War, for

example, they sent troops of their own accord and at their own expense to fight the battles of the mother country in South Africa.

**305. Surface and Climate of Australasia.** In respect to latitude, Australasia corresponds to North America from Panama to Portland, Me.

Australia lies mostly in the trade-wind zone (§51), and its surface is shaped much like a saucer. The mountains near the eastern shore thus condense part of the moisture from the southeast trade wind on the seaward slope. This same wind, however, descending toward the interior, is a drying wind, which leaves three-fourths of the continent too dry for agriculture and much of it too dry even for stock raising (§44). Thus originates the "Dead Heart of Australia." There are, moreover, violent fluctuations in the rainfall from year to year, which sometimes cause widespread crop failures. The tropical section has, however, a regular rainy season in summer when the equatorial belt of calms and rains moves south; while Tasmania and New Zealand, lying in the zone of westerly winds, have a temperate oceanic climate much like that of England.

**306. Forests and Fisheries of Australasia.** New Zealand is heavily timbered on the western slope, where the rainfall is most abundant. Kauri pine is the finest native wood, and Kauri gum, obtained from the earth where forests formerly stood, is an important export. The Australian forests contain durable varieties of eucalyptus, but little pine. They have been much reduced by ring barking the trees to provide pasturage for stock. This policy has in the large run proved suicidal, as the grass soon deteriorates in that climate without forest protection.

The commercial fisheries are along the northern coast, especially around Thursday Island. They yield, as in Oceania, chiefly pearls, pearl shells, and trepang.

**307. The Stock Industry in Australasia.** Australia is rather pastoral than agricultural. (Fig. 198.) Moreover, being a

country of floods and droughts, made worse by destruction of the forests, the losses in dry seasons are enormous. It is estimated that 40,000,000 sheep perished during the great drought of 1901-2. Sheep are most numerous in New South Wales, horses and beef cattle in Queensland, and dairy cattle in Victoria, where the pastures are better watered. The chief product is wool. (Figs. 197 and 198.) Both sheep and cattle thrive in New Zealand. The stock industry profits from the refrigerator ships which land butter and meat in London in prime condition. There is also a large trade in provisions with India, and, in fact, with all southern and eastern Asia.



FIG. 197. *Ox teams hauling wool to market, Darling district, Australia.*

Rabbits, once a national pest, are also exported frozen, by the shipload. Victoria alone has utilized 20,000,000 of them for meat and fur in a single year.

**308. The Crops of Australasia.** In Australia, the great enemy of agriculture is drought. Tillage of the soil is practically confined, in the temperate section, to the eastern slope, and to the region of westerly winds south of latitude 35°. The largest acreage of plowed land is under cereals; but by reason of the capricious climate, Australia is neither a large nor a reliable exporter of grain. (Fig. 198.) In dry years heavy imports of wheat are necessary.

Oranges, olives, and grapes are also extensively cultivated around the cities of Sydney and Adelaide. Australian raisins

and wine compete sharply with like products of California.

In the tropical section north of Rockhampton, which is a thinly-peopled frontier district, there is some production of sugar cane, corn, and fruit, especially bananas. Cotton culture has also begun. The plantations there are still worked to some extent with colored contract labor; but the temperate South insists that "all Australia must be a white man's country," and further colored immigration is practically prohibited.

In Tasmania and New Zealand, which are cooler and moister, oats, barley, and potatoes are grown, besides all temperate fruits. Tasmania has become an important source of apples for the London market during the northern winter. New Zealand has also a native swamp fiber, called phormium or New Zealand flax, which is of some commercial importance.

**309. Mineral Products of Australasia.** The discovery of gold (1851) quickly populated Australia as it did California, and Australia continues to be one of the great gold fields of the world. (Figs. 138 and 198.) The district near Melbourne, where gold was first mined, is still important, though western Australia now has the largest output. New Zealand also produces gold, largely from placer deposits worked by means of floating dredges.

The tin-producing belt of the Malay Peninsula is apparently continued through eastern Australia to Tasmania, accompanied by copper. (Fig. 219.) The famous Broken Hill mines produce silver, lead, and zinc. Australia ranks with Chile in the production of copper, and next to the United States in silver. (Fig. 138.) Iron occurs both on the mainland and in Tasmania.

Coal of good quality is widely distributed, but the chief output is around Newcastle and in New Zealand. Being convenient to water transportation, it is shipped to all parts of the Pacific, especially to Chile and the United States.

**310. Manufactures of Australasia.** Australasia is still, like South America, occupied chiefly in furnishing food and raw materials.

It is true, however, that protective tariffs have been enacted to stimulate industry; and that manufactures connected with meat, wool, and leather have obvious advantages. An efficient agent is at hand for tanning in the native black wattle. Smelting works near the Newcastle coal field are also advantageously situated, though little use has been made of native iron.

**311. Transportation in Australasia.** The interior of Australia is largely a closed basin draining into salt lakes. The rivers are mostly short and rapid; even the navigable Murray is almost dry at times. The Great Barrier Reef, however, provides sheltered coastwise navigation on the east for over a thousand miles.

Internal transportation consequently depends on railroads. These are chiefly owned by the several states, and form a connected system only in eastern and southeastern Australia. Moreover, all the states except Victoria and South Australia have different gauges, thus compelling passengers and goods to change cars at every state boundary.

A north-and-south transcontinental railway has been projected by the Commonwealth of Australia from Adelaide to Port Darwin, following the shortest route, also an east-and-west line from Adelaide to Perth. In New Zealand and Tasmania trunk lines already traverse the islands from north to south.

**312. Commercial Centers of Australasia.** The shape of Australia is singularly massive, and vast stretches of coast lack any indentation capable of sheltering a ship; yet there are several harbors which have no superiors in the world.

As a result of this coastal formation, many commercial cities are river ports a few miles from the sea,<sup>1</sup> and the sea-ports which do exist have received distinctive names. Thus Port Phillip is the harbor of Melbourne, Port Jackson of Sydney, Port Curtis of Gladstone, Port Hunter of Newcastle, and Port Darwin of Palmerston.

<sup>1</sup>The principal river ports, with their distances from the sea, are: Hobart, 22 miles; Launceston, 40; Brisbane, 17; Rockhampton, 35; Perth, 12.

The former metropolis was Melbourne, in the most fruitful part of temperate Australia; but this rank is now held by Sydney, located on the finest harbor in the world, which is the terminus of many steamship lines. These are the two great commercial centers of Australia. Both are of astonishing, in fact abnormal, size for so young and so sparsely-peopled a country. Other important commercial cities are Newcastle, the principal coal port; Brisbane, the leading port in Queensland; Adelaide, in South Australia; and Freemantle, on an artificial harbor near Perth, in West Australia. The first and last ports of call are Freemantle on the southern, and Thursday Island on the northern, route to India and Suez. Albany occupies a similar position on the route to the Cape of Good Hope. Port Augusta, at the head of Spencer Gulf, and Port Darwin in the north will become important whenever connected by the transcontinental railway.

The principal ports in Tasmania are Hobart in the south and Launceston in the north, both on tidal rivers accessible to sea-going vessels. In New Zealand the chief commercial centers are Auckland, where the routes from Sydney and from San Francisco converge, and Wellington, on the strait separating the two main islands. Both have harbors that are deep, safe, and spacious. Auckland, by reason of its position, will become the main port of call between Sydney and Panama.

**313. Colonies and Commerce of Australasia.** Both Australia and New Zealand, though rather young to aspire to motherhood, have colonies. Australia administers British New Guinea (Territory of Papua) and other British islands west of Fiji. New Zealand has taken over (1901) most of the British islands east of Tonga.<sup>1</sup>

The foreign commerce of Australasia consists mainly in the export of wool, metals, meat and other animal products, and

<sup>1</sup>These embrace the Cook Islands, nine in number, also Niue, Palmerston, Tongarewa, Manahiki, Rierston, Danger, and Suvaroff islands; total area 280 square miles, population 13,000. The last named, though a coral atoll, has a deep lagoon harbor, commodious and perfectly sheltered. Practically all of these islands were formerly occupied by Americans under the Guano Act (§227).

carrier of new ideas no less than of new commodities. The Japanese thus aspire to become in fact what their position and character tend to make them—the English of the East.

Modern Japan began when Commodore Perry with an American fleet opened the country to commerce (1854). Soon the Mikado,<sup>1</sup> who had been stripped of power by the feudal nobles, gained his authority (1868), induced the feudal lords to resign their prerogatives (1871), and freely opened Japan to modern civilization. To-day Japan, equipped with a powerful army and navy, an elective parliament, efficient public schools, and a ruling class educated in all modern arts and sciences, ranks with the Great Powers of the world, even successfully disputing with Russia the Empire of the East. There is no other example in history of such marvelous progress.

**315. Surface and Climate of Japan.** The surface is generally mountainous, and the coast line very broken. As the land is unstable, apparently rising slowly, earthquakes are frequent; and probably for the same reason, volcanoes are numerous.

The main islands correspond in latitude to the Mississippi Valley. The climate is, however, warmer toward the south on account of the Japan current than the latitude would indicate; and at the same time colder toward the north, especially in Yezo (Hokkaido), because of a current descending from Bering Strait. Taiwan (Formosa), the southern Riu-kiu, and the Bonin islands are tropical. The rainfall is heavy (80 inches), especially on the south coast and in summer when the monsoon wind blows toward the continent (§51).

**316. The Fisheries of Japan.** Nowhere else except in China do fish play so large a part in the life of a great nation. More than 3,000,000 people live by fishing; for all, fish and rice are the staple foods. Recently salmon canneries have begun work.

<sup>1</sup>Descended, according to Japanese accounts, from the oldest royal house in the world, which is reputed to have reigned since 660 B. C.—that is, since three centuries before Alexander the Great.



Fish also serve extensively as a fertilizer. Japan surpasses even the United States in scientific fish culture. By the treaty with Russia (1905), Japan has also acquired extensive and very valuable fishing rights along the Siberian coast.

**317. The Forests of Japan.** Forests still cover the upper slopes, cedar serving for shipbuilding, cypress for furniture and ornaments. Yezo has also great oak forests. For most purposes, however, bamboo is employed. (Fig. 203.) Peculiar to eastern Asia are the wax tree, producing an oil used in place of animal fat; the lacquer tree, yielding a fine and very durable varnish; the paper mulberry; and the camphor laurel,



FIG. 203. *Groves of bamboo in Japan.*

which is now found chiefly in Taiwan. Camphor is, next to turpentine, the most important commercially of the essential oils obtained by distillation. It is used mainly in the manufacture of celluloid. The camphor trade is now a government monopoly.

**318. Agricultural Products of Japan.**

In Japan, as in south and central China, most farms are under two acres in size, owing to the density of population on the arable lands. The soil is tilled by hand, with rude spades and hoes, but so carefully that the country is a

vast garden. This method of cultivation leaves very little room for live stock. Meat and dairy products are therefore comparatively little used. Until very recently milk, which is now coming into use, was regarded by the Japanese (as cheese is still by the Chinese) with a sort of horror.

The principal food crop is rice, grown on all lowlands and many of the hillsides, as far as they can be terraced, to latitude 40°. However, the crop is insufficient for domestic use, as the population of



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FIG. 204. *Japanese threshing machine in full swing.*

Japan exceeds 50,000,000 in a country smaller than California. Moreover, only 15.7 per cent of the soil is arable. Considerable rice is, however, exported, while cheaper grades are imported for domestic use. There is also a limited crop of barley, wheat, and rye, which are not infrequently rotated with rice on the same soil. Grain is usually cut and threshed by hand. (Fig. 204.) Soy beans, being rich in nitrogen, serve as a partial substitute for meat. Plums, persimmons, figs, and oranges are the common fruits.

Raw silk (Fig. 206), largely from the Tokyo district, and tea from southern Japan and Taiwan, are the principal agricultural exports. (Fig. 205.) Formosa tea is reckoned the best in the world. Tobacco and hemp are also common crops for local use, and sugar cane is of some importance in Taiwan.

**319. Mineral Resources of Japan.** Japan has a variety of mineral resources, though the annual output is far inferior in value to the farm products.



Copyright, 1901, by B. L. Singley

FIG. 205. *Gathering tea near Kioto, Japan.*

The principal, in fact the only important, export minerals are coal and copper. Coal of fair quality occurs in several fields from southern Sakhalin, but recently recovered from Russia (1905), to Taiwan. Yezo alone is said to contain two-thirds as much coal land as Great Britain. In addition to copper, which was the lead-

ing metal of Old Japan, there is now a small output of silver, lead, antimony (used in type metal), and manganese. Iron ore is present but as yet is not extensively mined. Petroleum fields have been opened in the north which partially meet the domestic demand. Sulphur is abundant owing to the numerous volcanoes.

**320. Handicrafts of Japan.** Hand work reached its greatest development in countries long settled and densely peopled, like Japan, China, and India, where the hard struggle for existence early taught industrious habits. Nowhere did hand work reach greater perfection than in Japan, whose people are distinguished not only for cleanliness, politeness, and courage, but also for an artistic instinct that gives their wares a peculiar grace and beauty.

Among the handicraft products in which Japan excels are fine strong paper used extensively in place of leather, oil-cloth, and glass; matting of varied design; porcelain, which was originally a Chinese invention; lacquered and enameled goods; and fine metal work in gold, silver, bronze, and steel. Japanese swords, for example, are reckoned superior to the best from Damascus. These art crafts reach their highest development at Nagoya and the ancient capital, Kyoto.

**321. Modern Manufactures of Japan.** Japanese matches, made with native sulphur, have supplanted the Swedish product in east Asia. The tobacco industry, a government monopoly, also supports an export trade. Japanese sword-smiths, turning their skill in metals to the arts of peace, now make fine clocks and surgical instruments. The shipbuilding yards at Nagasaki employ both wood and steel; and there are



Courtesy of Rear Admiral H. Webster

FIG. 206. *Reeling silk from cocoons in Japan.*

large iron works at Wakamatsu, belonging to the government. These are, however, still run at a loss.

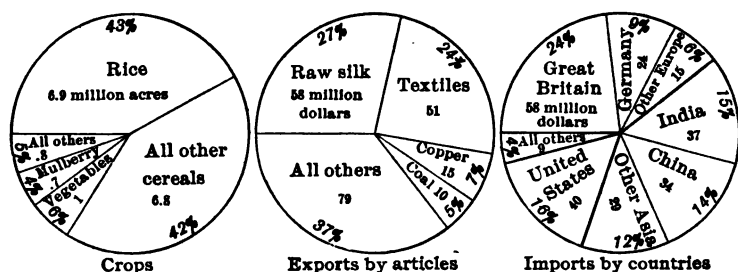
The most important modern industry is the manufacture of textiles, especially of cottons, which form an important export. The cotton factories employ mostly women and children, paying them ten to fifteen cents a day. It is this cheap labor that enables Japan to compete with Europe in the markets of China. Hemp spinning and the making of fish nets also occupy several factories, as well as many people in their homes, though less than before the introduction of cotton. Cotton and hemp are combined in Ozaka carpets. Silk and even woolen mills are likewise at work, the latter using imported materials.

Modern manufactures center at Ozaka, the "Fall River of Japan," with the port of Kobe, both having water power and ready access to coal. Within one hundred miles of Ozaka are found a third of the population of the empire and all the large cities except Tokyo and Yokohama. At Ozaka is a permanent Commercial Museum of Japanese wares. Ozaka, Tokyo, and Kobe also have Commercial High Schools.

**322. Transportation and Trade Centers of Japan.** Human porters and pack horses are the usual modes of conveyance in the country, while jinrikishas drawn by men are used in the cities. The rapid extension of railroads, however, has revolutionized long-distance transportation, making possible an unparalleled expansion of foreign trade. Even Taiwan, recently a tropical wilderness, now has a trunk line of railway traversing the island.

The indented coast line provides many superb harbors. The Japanese are thus naturally a seafaring folk, who are not inaptly called "the Vikings of Asia," and they have served a long apprenticeship as deep-sea fishermen. They aim at nothing less than control of the carrying trade on the Pacific. To that end, the government grants heavy shipping subsidies. Already the Japanese own and officer steamship lines to North and South America, Australia, and all parts of the Orient. They have almost a monopoly in Korean ports, while in Chinese waters they have outstripped the Germans and now stand next in tonnage to the English.

Toward America, the principal commercial city is Yokohama, situated a few miles from Tokyo on a large bay where an artificial harbor was necessary, as at Manila. In the north, Hakodate is a coaling and fishing port. Toward China, the chief coaling and naval station is Nagasaki, which has coal on its very shores. Nagasaki is also becoming a trans-shipment port for Siberia, Chosen, and northern China. Commerce in heavy commodities, however, seeks the port lying farthest inland; hence Kobe, on a splendid landlocked harbor near the head of the great inland Sea of Japan, commands



Data from U. S. Consular Rept., Ann., No. 32

FIG. 207. *Crops and commerce of Japan.* The cultivated land in Japan, exclusive of Taiwan and Sakhalin is 16.2 million acres or 17% of area, the rest being mountainous. Commerce in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 213, chiefly to U. S. (30%), China (25%) and France; imports, 246, largely raw cotton, rice, and manufactures.

the bulk of the China trade. It is the chief commercial center of Japan, having a larger tonnage than Yokohama. The future of Japan thus unmistakably lies in Asia.

In Taiwan the mountains meet the sea in a series of towering cliffs, and natural harbors are lacking. Kelung, which has a good artificial harbor, is the chief shipping port.

**323. The Commerce of Japan.** Japan exports largely raw silk, teas, and minerals, besides artistic handiwork; but also more and more factory products, notably cotton and silk goods. On the other hand, Japan imports mainly food and raw materials, especially cotton from India. (Fig. 207.)

The fact is that the overburdened land cannot support the teeming population, which is still increasing at the rate of nearly a half million a year. The Japanese must, therefore, either acquire new lands to cultivate, or new markets for manufactured goods, or they must starve. This grim necessity underlies their rapid development as a manufacturing and commercial nation. It also explains their heroic battle against Russia in Manchuria (1904).

**324. "The Hermit Nation."** The people of Chosen, finely developed physically, have been known for centuries as the "oxen of the East," submitting without a murmur to every sort of oppression from their rulers; and their government has long been a corrupt and powerless oriental despotism. As a result of the Russo-Japanese War, Chosen (about the size of North and South Carolina and having a population of perhaps ten millions) became a Japanese protectorate and was later formally annexed to Japan. Rich in natural resources and thinly peopled compared to Japan, Chosen is by virtue of its position the natural field for Japanese expansion.

**325. The Products of Chosen.** Corresponding in latitude to the Atlantic coast from Boston to Charleston, S. C., Chosen has a temperate climate and fertile soil, though the surface is somewhat mountainous. The uplands bear valuable forests both of pine and hard woods, especially along the Yalu River; and the forests abound in fur-bearing animals such as the Korean tiger, fox, and squirrel. In the main, however, Chosen is an agricultural country. In the broad valleys the usual temperate crops are grown; toward the south also rice, cotton, beans, and tobacco. Rice alone amounts to nearly half the exports. Another crop is ginseng, a worthless root much prized by the Chinese as a cure-all. Live stock and animal products are also of some importance.

The mountains are rich in minerals, including copper, coal, and iron. Only gold, however, is extensively mined, chiefly by Americans. The sole manufactures for the market are paper and straw hats, both made by hand.

**326. Trade Routes of Chosen.** The east coast rises steeply from the sea in forest-covered mountains. There is, however, one spacious bay on which Wōnsan (Gensan), the port of an important mineral district, is located. The western slope, on the other hand, is gradual, and five of the rivers are navigable in their lower reaches. For land transportation crude carts and sleds are used. (Fig. 208.) The principal commercial port<sup>1</sup>



FIG. 208. *Korean oxen and sleds.*

on this coast, and indeed in all Chosen, is Chemulpo, which has both river and rail connection with the capital. This railway will eventually cross the peninsula to Wōnsan. In the south the principal port is Fusan, situated on a deep bay where the Korean Strait is narrowest (120 miles). Train ferries from Japan there connect with the trunk railway, which traverses Chosen and Manchuria, forming a through line from Tokyo to Europe.

<sup>1</sup>Another having a much better harbor is Chinnampo, the port of the Phŏngyang district.



### XXIII—THE CHINESE EMPIRE

**327. "A Cycle of Cathay."** China is the oldest nation in the world. Rome seems ancient to-day; but when Rome was still a place without a name, China already looked back on more centuries than have since elapsed.

Measured by all material standards, moreover, the Chinese Empire is most impressive. It is a third larger than the United States. Its population, in round numbers 400,000,000, is more than a fourth of the human race. Finally the Chinese thrive in conditions where no other race could exist, and surpass all nations in patient endurance of labor.

But before the shock of arms, the colossus crumbles. Ancient renown, numbers, wealth, and industry are alike powerless to save a nation from that searching and remorseless test of efficiency. The difficulty seems to be that China acquired her national characteristics in the many ages during which she was effectually isolated by seas, mountains, and deserts, forming a world in herself. As a result, China is like a house built of bricks without mortar. Her people, though rating life of little worth, are not brave in battle. They have a strong race instinct which breaks out in massacres of foreigners, but with rare exceptions they have shown no public spirit, no national patriotism, no readiness to sacrifice self for an ideal. Personal profit seems to be their only rule of action, and for centuries their government has been little more than a system of bribery. China thus appears fatally deficient in the qualities needed to hold her own in the struggle for existence of nations.

**328. Physical Features.** The Chinese Empire extends from the latitude of Jamaica to that of Labrador, and has a corresponding variety of climate. (Fig. 209.)

Eastern China consists in the main of three great river valleys, while between them the mountain ranges spread out

like a fan toward the east, thus admitting the rain-bearing monsoon winds of summer to the interior (§51).

Central Asia, however, is an enormous plateau, arid because far from the sea and shut off from it by mountains. Tibet, inclosed between the Himálayas and parallel ranges, resembles the Andean plateaus, but is even loftier. Mongolia and East Turkistan, on the other hand, are comparatively low (2,000–3,000 feet) and slope toward the center, being no doubt

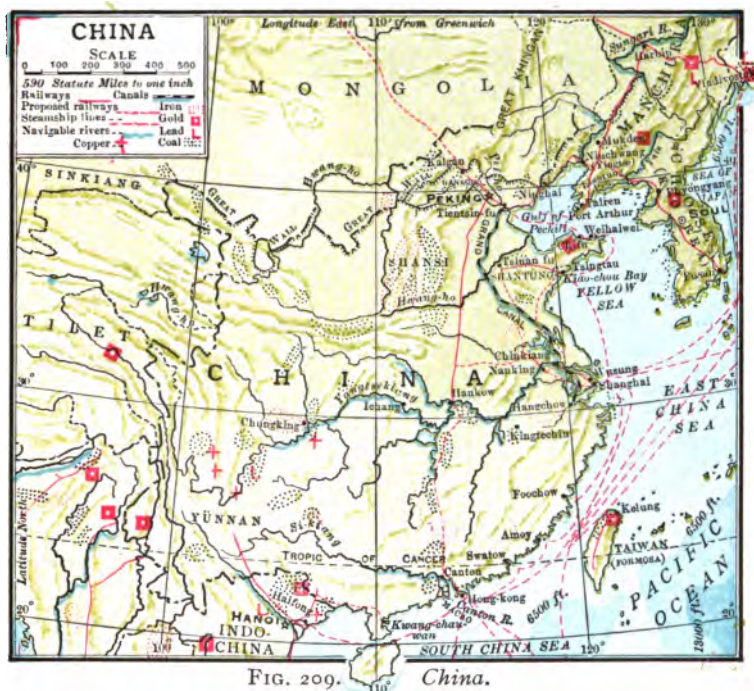


FIG. 209. China.

the bed of an ancient sea. In this region crops can be grown only on irrigated lands near the foot of the mountains.

The fertile yellow loess of the upper Hwang-ho, brought by the westerly winds of winter from central Asia, and the rich volcanic soil of the upper Yangtse-kiang, are cultivated as high as 8,000 feet. The lower river valleys are even more fertile; but they are largely below the river level and subject

to disastrous floods despite, or rather because of, the system of dikes; for the sediment, being deposited only in the river bed, finally raises the river bodily above the surrounding country. It is this process of putting the river on stilts that has made the Hwang-ho<sup>1</sup> "China's Sorrow."

**329. Chinese Fisheries and Forests.** In China, as in Japan, fish and rice are jointly the staff of life. Forty millions are believed to live in large part by fishing, plying their trade by day and night with seines, lines, cormorants, and every imaginable device. The trade in fish is, however, mostly local.

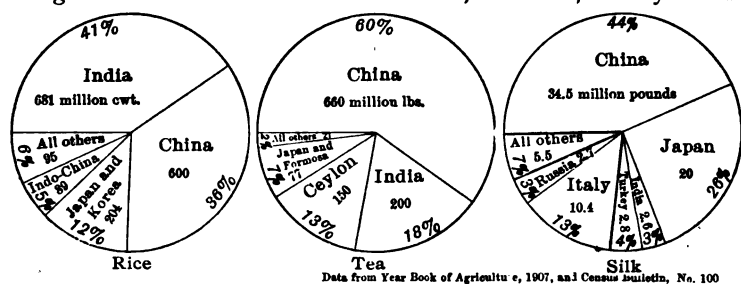


FIG. 210. Commercial staples of eastern Asia. Totals: rice, 1,669 million hundred weight in 1906; tea, 1,108 million pounds in 1906; raw silk, 75.5 million pounds in 1908.

The forests have been almost entirely cut away, with disastrous results to soil and water ways, except in Manchuria, where there are both pine and hard woods. The Yalu River brings down some logs to sawmills near the sea. The common people use the bamboo for almost every conceivable purpose. "China wax" is a substance of some commercial value for candles, deposited by an insect on a species of oak in southern China.

**330. Chinese Agriculture.** It is fitting that the Emperor of China should open every planting season by himself plowing

<sup>1</sup>The Hwang-ho has changed its course no less than eleven times in twenty-five centuries, the last time (1852) moving its mouth over 300 miles. A minor outbreak (1887) drowned at least a million people. The same system of dikes or levees is in operation on the lower Mississippi and bids fair in time to have the same results. In Egypt, on the other hand, the floods are allowed to overspread and fertilize the land.

a furrow, for most of the people dwell in villages and live from the soil. The list of great cities is indeed imposing; but the proportion of urban population is, after all, trifling.

From the Yangtse Valley south, rice is by far the most important food crop; though other cereals and beans are sometimes grown in winter. (Fig. 210.) Southern fruits abound, particularly oranges. Sugar cane and cassia, a kind of cinnamon, are at home in the Si-kiang Valley. Ramie, hemp, and in recent years cotton, are planted in small patches to be spun and woven by



FIG. 211. Coolies in a treadmill pumping water for flooding rice fields.

the women. Cotton is also exported to some extent, principally to Japan. Ramie or China grass is preëminent for luster, fineness, and strength, but the extraction of the fiber is difficult and therefore expensive.

In the southern uplands, much land is planted in tobacco and in opium poppies,<sup>1</sup> so much, indeed, that foodstuffs must be imported. The principal hill products are, however, silk and tea, which originally opened China to foreign commerce.

<sup>1</sup>The Chinese government has recently, however, endeavored to check the cultivation of poppies, in order to get rid of opium smoking which has become a national danger. How far its efforts will succeed remains to be seen.

Since the earliest days China has been preëminently the Land of Silk. In recent years the tea crop has declined in consequence of export duties and the competition of the machine-cured tea of Ceylon. In general, the hot, wet summers enable southern crops to be grown far beyond their usual limits, rice and cotton, for example, almost to the latitude of Chicago.

In northern China and Manchuria, the usual crops are beans and cereals, especially wheat and millet. Niuchwang (Newchwang) is the greatest bean market in the world. Manchuria and Mongolia east of the Khingan Range probably rival the United States in amount of land adapted to spring wheat.



FIG. 212. *Human plow horses in China.*

Much of this is still under grass, being held by Manchu chiefs who pasture vast herds upon it: but Harbin, on the navigable Sungari where the railway forks to Vladivostok and Port Arthur, is already a great milling center, competing with American flour in the Orient.

China proper is so frightfully overcrowded with people trying to live by agriculture (Figs. 211 and 212) that domestic animals are scarce, except poultry and hogs. Moreover, Buddhism discourages the eating of meat; though this does not prevent it in Tibet and Mongolia, where lack of water severely limits crop growing. Dairy products are consequently of little importance, and vegetable oils are commonly used in place of

butter. The chief sources of table oils are sesame, a plant much cultivated by the ancient Babylonians, and (strange as it may seem to those who remember youthful experiences) the castor plant. In the north, beans are also pressed for oil, the bean cake afterward serving as a fertilizer and constituting an important export to Japan.

In central Asia, on the other hand, there are many sheep and goats, some horses and camels, but few cattle. The exports are chiefly wool and skins. In Tibet the yak is important as a burden bearer; and a species of deer is found which yields musk, well known as a perfume.

**331. Mineral Resources of the Chinese Empire.** Chinese civilization is based on the soil, European civilization on the under-earth. Mining has been almost impossible in China lest, as the people ignorantly feared, the "earth-devils" be let loose. Yet China is rich in many, and enormously rich in a few minerals.

The plateau of Yünnan in the southwest contains copper, silver, lead, tin, gold, antimony, and vast sulphur beds. The same minerals exist in the Shantung (eastern) and Shansi (western) mountains; but the special wealth of these districts is in coal and iron. Shansi alone contains, according to some reports, twenty times as much anthracite coal land as the United States. Coal underlies, in whole or in part, a number of the other provinces of China, besides Manchuria. Although the latest investigation<sup>1</sup> has much reduced the previous estimates of the Chinese coal reserves, it still appears that China has great coal fields, some of them near large deposits of iron ore.

**332. Chinese Manufactures.** Until recent years, Chinese manufactures were household or at most neighborhood industries. Deserving of mention, besides the textiles woven in the homes of the people, are the copper and bronze goods of Yünnan; the porcelain of Kingtechin; the "India" ink of Nanking; the carving in jade, ivory, and wood of Canton;

<sup>1</sup>Bailey Willis, *Mineral Resources of China* (Economic Geology, 1908).

the paper, straw, matting, and bamboo goods, fans, and fireworks of innumerable cities. The best Chinese wares, though possibly less artistic, are often more solid and durable than the Japanese.

The introduction of modern machinery in such a densely-peopled country throws millions out of the employments which they and their fathers have followed for many generations. Nevertheless, power machinery has been introduced in the cotton and silk mills at Shanghai and vicinity and in the iron industry near Hankow, where coal and iron lie close together. Machinery is also slowly making its way into other industries.

Not a few observers, beholding the numbers and endurance of the Chinese, are haunted by the specter of the "yellow terror," fearing that they will possess by industry, and perhaps eventually by arms, the greater part of the world. But an unmilitary people cannot become military by learning the manual of arms; nor can the Chinese adopt modern machinery yet permanently keep their present low standard of living, which now enables Chinese cheap labor to defy competition.

**333. Transportation in China.** Transportation is chiefly by water, for which the great rivers, except the sandy Hwang-ho,



FIG. 213. *Coolies with loads and resting sticks.*

afford excellent facilities. Canals are also numerous. The Grand Canal, built in the seventh century and restored by



FIG. 214. *Passenger express in China.*

Kublai Khan (1289), connects the Yangtse-kiang with the Pei-ho at Tientsin-fu (700 miles). It served originally to carry the rice tribute of the southern provinces to Peking, but it is now almost useless in its northern half and cannot compete either with railways or with steam transportation by sea.

On land, porters, wheelbarrows, and sedan chairs are used (Figs. 213 and 214); but animal power is employed in Manchuria and northern China, where the cold winters render the country passable for carts. The caravan trade across Mongolia is carried by camels. Owing to the fact that tea is injured by ocean carriage, much of the tea for Europe is still conveyed by caravans or by rail.

The first locomotives in China were worshiped as dragons; the first railway (1876) was bought up by the authorities and destroyed. But all that is changed. The Chinese government, indeed, for a time went to the other extreme, granting to the Russians in Manchuria, the Germans in Shantung, the French in Yünnan, and other nations elsewhere, exclusive railway and mining rights that endanger the very integrity



and independence of the Chinese Empire. Recently, realizing this danger, the government has adopted the policy of building railways itself with Chinese capital.

The principal railways already open are: (1) the extensions of the Siberian line across Manchuria to Vladivostok and Port Arthur; (2) the line connecting this Manchurian system with the Korean railway and with Tientsin-fu, completing the all-rail route from Paris to Peking; (3) the Peking-Hankow line (755 miles) which will be extended to Canton, forming the great north and south trunk road; (4) the Peking-Kalgan line, which will be continued to Urga, along the ancient caravan trail. Another important trunk line has been undertaken from Tientsin-fu to Nanking, paralleling the Grand Canal.

**334. Centers of Commerce in the Chinese Empire.** In the absence of railways, the location of commercial centers was determined, until recent years, exclusively by the water ways and caravan routes; consequently only the river ports are of first-class importance.

Canton, the largest city and formerly (until 1842) the only open port, is still the chief silk market. The three rivers which lead into the interior from Canton carry a heavy traffic and open paths for future railways. Some miles below the city, however, a bar with only sixteen feet of water over it shuts out large sea-going vessels.

From Canton to the Yangtse-kiang the harbors are good but not commercially important. Swatow, Amoy, and Foo-chow, indeed, do a respectable business, but they are cut off from the interior by mountains nearly parallel to the coast. This section is largely under Japanese influence from the near-by island of Taiwan.

The Yangtse-kiang Valley is the heart of China; Shanghai near the mouth of the Yangtse-kiang, is the New York of China. (Fig. 215.) Even goods destined for northern ports, like most of the American exports, are transhipped at Shanghai. It has, however, rather shallow water (twenty feet), being situated some fourteen miles up a tributary of the

Yangtse-kiang where the banks are less swampy. The out-port of Wusung is therefore growing rapidly. Another important Yangtse-kiang port is Hankow<sup>1</sup>, 680 miles from the sea but accessible to seagoing vessels, and situated at the focus of tributary water ways. It is the greatest tea market, and the second city of China in population.

In the north commerce centers about the Gulf of Pechili, though only the Shantung and Liautung peninsulas contain good harbors. Tientsin-fu, the third city in China, is the river port of Peking. By virtue of its position near the head of the



FIG. 215. *Native part of the water front at Shanghai.*

Gulf of Pechili, Tientsin-fu has become a center of commerce second only to Shanghai, notwithstanding there is a thirteen-foot bar at the river mouth. Peking commands the rail and caravan route through Mongolia to Siberia and Europe by way of the Nankou pass,<sup>2</sup> Kalgan, and Urga; and also the route into Manchuria between the Great Wall and the sea at

<sup>1</sup>Other Yangtse-kiang ports are Chinkiang, at the entrance of the Grand Canal; Ichang, 1,050 miles inland at the head of navigation for large, and Chungking (1,500 miles) for small steamers. Junk traffic goes still higher up the river.

<sup>2</sup>A narrow defile barred with huge gates and rising from 4,000 feet at Nankou to 5,000 at Kalgan.

Ninghai, now traversed by a railway. Harbin is a new railway center in Manchuria. Niuchwang<sup>1</sup> on the navigable Liau-ho (nineteen feet), though icebound for three months each winter, is the natural outlet of Manchuria, rather than Dalny,<sup>2</sup> which the Russians built, and the Japanese use for that purpose; for commerce gathers at the head of bays, not at the ends of peninsulas (§41). For this reason Chifu in Shantung Peninsula, though possessed of a good harbor, has but a small district tributary to it.

**335. Merchant Guilds of China.** Trade in China is controlled by powerful merchant guilds. These enforce so rigid an observance of contracts by members that a Chinese merchant's word is as good as his bond. Such a reputation is one of the principal assets of Chinese merchants in the Far East. This condition is the exact opposite of that which obtains in Japan, where public officials are honest but the merchants are often unreliable.

On the other hand, the Chinese merchant guilds mercilessly pursue and boycott non-members. No foreign house, therefore, can hope to establish itself until it has made its peace with the native guilds. This means the employment of Chinese as compradors or native managers; and while they live up to their contracts, they one and all pocket a percentage—known throughout the Orient as a "squeeze"—on all the business they transact. In many cases, the comprador has come to be the real owner of the business and tolerates the presence of the nominal foreign owners merely to secure the protection of foreign consular courts against the black-mailing exactions of the native courts.

**336. The Commerce of China.** The principal exports of China are silk, tea, cotton, and other raw materials; while the imports are largely cotton manufactures, opium, kerosene, and foodstuffs, especially sugar, rice, and fish. (Fig. 216.)

<sup>1</sup>Some thirteen miles up the Liau-ho. It is also called Yingtse and Yinkow. There is another Niuchwang, thirty miles up the river, of little commercial importance.

<sup>2</sup>Renamed Tairen by the Japanese.

The bulk of the commerce is still with Great Britain and British possessions; though many, if not a majority, of the mercantile houses are now German, and the German Asiatic Bank of Shanghai, with branches in other Asiatic cities, has become a great commercial power.

American interests in the Far East began when the good ship "Empress" first carried the American flag to China (1784); but their development has been hindered by the same causes as in South America (§300). The Chinese Empire, rich by nature and densely peopled, is the greatest potential market in the world; and the United States, fronting it across the Pacific,

	29%	12%	6%	5%	5%	4%	30%
<i>Exports by articles.....</i>	Raw silk 60 million dollars	Tea 25	Cotton 12	Hides 10	Beans 10	Rice 8	All others 82
	30%	18%	13%	9%	8%	16%	
<i>Imports by countries.....</i>	From Hongkong 123 million dollars	Great Britain 61	Japan 45	United States 22	India 12	All others 55	

Data from U. S. Consular Rept., Ann., No. 29

FIG. 216. *Commerce of China. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 209, mostly to Hong-kong (34%), Japan (15%), France, and United States; imports, 339, the largest items being cotton goods, flour and fish, railway equipment, opium, and kerosene. The imports from Hong-kong are chiefly of British origin.*

is nearer by sea, and for this reason has a more vital interest there, than any nation of Europe. China is, moreover, the greatest consumer of cotton goods, while the United States is the greatest producer of cotton. The prosperity of the United States in the future thus largely hinges on the maintenance in China of the "open door"—that is, a fair field and no favors, alike for all competing nations—and on the ability of American merchants to hold their own in international competition.

**337. Foreign Possessions in China.** The island of Macao at the mouth of Canton River was early granted to the Portuguese (1586). Having a harbor too shallow for modern vessels, the city is now greatly decayed, retaining only the

opium trade by way of the Si-kiang River from the poppy region of Yunnan. It is also the gambling den of Asia.

Hong-kong, an island near Canton, was ceded much later (1842) to the English, who also acquired (1898) a lease of the adjoining peninsula. At Hong-kong is a splendid harbor where English administration has created from nothing in half a century the greatest commercial port in Asia, and one of the greatest in the world. (Fig. 217.) It is an absolutely



FIG. 217. *Hong-kong Harbor.*

*Courtesy of Jerrisa' Bone*

free port, without a custom house. Through it passes most of the commerce of southern China, Indo-China, and the Philippines. (Fig. 291.)

After the Chino-Japanese War, Germany suddenly landed sailors and seized (1897) Kiao-chou Bay, alleging as a reason the murder of two German missionaries. A lease for ninety-nine years was subsequently obtained of a small district (208.4 square miles) around the bay, together with exclusive railway and mining rights in the huge province of Shantung. The harbor (Tsingtau or Chingtao) is deep, land-locked, always ice-free, and now connected by rail (279.6 miles) with the city of Tsinan on the Hwang-ho. Tsingtau thus has decisive advantages over Chifu, and indeed all northern ports. It lies, moreover, on the steamer track to the Gulf of Pechili or Chosen. The Germans consequently hope to create at Tsingtau a mart that shall rival Hong-kong. It is already the chief market for straw-braid wares, one of the principal native manufactures.

At the close of the Chino-Japanese War (1895), Russia in conjunction with France and Germany expelled Japan from Port Arthur in order to "preserve the integrity of China." Russia then proceeded to obtain possession herself of Port Arthur and, in effect, of all Manchuria. The Japanese subsequently recovered Port Arthur by force of arms (1905), while by the terms of peace Manchuria was to be restored to China. Manchuria is, however, practically divided between Japan and Russia, the latter retaining the lion's share.

In Kashgar, moreover, the Russian consul with his guard of Cossacks is the real power;<sup>1</sup> and in Mongolia Russia holds a mining monopoly, a franchise for a railway from Kiakhta to Urga, and has opened at Urga, the capital of Mongolia, a branch of the Russo-Chinese Bank guarded by Cossacks, with Russian forts and barracks. Such conditions are the usual forerunners of annexation.

In order to offset Port Arthur and Kiao-chou, England secured a lease (1898) of Weihaiwei, a naval station in Shantung Peninsula. France at the same time obtained a lease of Kwang-chau Wan Bay in the south, and a cession of two islands commanding the harbor.

The division of China thus appears to be well under way; but it has been checked and may in the end be prevented by the open-door policy of the United States, and the victory of Japan over Russia (1905), which has established a balance of power in the Far East. Japan, however, aspires not only to be the Schoolmaster of Asia, but also to control its commerce.

<sup>1</sup>American Geographical Society *Bulletin*, Dec., 1905, p. 705.

## XXIV—SOUTHERN ASIA

**338. Malaysia.** The East India islands, between New Guinea and the mainland of Asia, are equal in extent to Europe outside of Russia, and support a population of many millions. All this mighty colonial domain, except the Portuguese end of Timor, the British part of Borneo, and the Philippines, belongs to Holland. The inhabitants are Malays, possibly a cross between Hindus and Mongolians, who mostly became Mohammedans after the Arab conquest (1478). Malaysia includes also the Malay Peninsula, of which the larger part is British. The soil is in large part of volcanic origin, abundantly watered and fertile.

**339. Agricultural Products of Malaysia.** Java, containing fully three-fourths of the population of the Dutch East Indies, is perhaps most widely known for its coffee. This is grown at medium elevations (2,000–5,000 feet). In recent years, however, coffee has lost ground in favor of tea and cinchona (Fig. 218), both grown at higher levels. Java also ranks high in

88%		6%	5%	3%
Java	14,726 thousand lbs.	India 1,000	So. Am. 775	All others 185

Data from Consular Reports, June, 1904

FIG. 218. *World's production of cinchona bark.*  
Total. 17,106 thousand pounds.

cane sugar (Fig. 278) and next to Bengal as a source of indigo, both being lowland crops. Sumatra is especially noted for tobacco and pepper. The Moluccas are still, as they were when Columbus set sail in search of them, and chanced upon America, the spice islands; though the spice trade has relatively declined in modern times, owing to the use of fresh meat and green vegetables.

In addition, many of the islands, as well as the Malay

Peninsula, export sago, tapioca, and copra. In recent years rubber plantations, mainly of Pará trees, have also become important. Buffalo, goat, and cattle hides are largely exported.

**340. Other Products of Malaysia.** Most of the land, even in Java, is still forested, and jungle products are of great value. These include dammar and copal resin, used in varnishes; benzoin, a resin burned as incense; gutta-percha, rattan, tree cotton (*kapok*), a tanning extract called gambier, and the "edible birds' nests" of Borneo.

The sea yields pearls, tortoise shell, and trepang. The mineral resources comprise petroleum and coal, especially in Sumatra and Borneo; also the principal tin deposits in the world, extending through the Malay Peninsula, Banka, and Billiton. (Fig. 219.) Sumatra oil has become an article of

48%	14%	8%	16%	8%	6%
Malay States	Dutch East Indies	Other Asia	Bolivia	Australia	All others
54 thousand tons	16	9	18	9	7

Data from Mineral Resources of U. S., 1907

FIG. 219. *World's production of tin. Total in 1907: 113 thousand short tons.*

export. Owing to the neighboring tin deposits, Singapore has the largest tin smelters in the world, and many canneries, especially of pineapples.

**341. The Commerce of Malaysia.** Mining and commerce are mostly carried on by Chinese, who are crowding out the less energetic natives, especially in the British possessions. The European merchants are largely German.

Java is traversed by a trunk line railway, with various branches. There are also short lines in Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula.

The metropolis of the Dutch East Indies is Surabaya, on a fine harbor in eastern Java. The capital, Batavia, adjacent to a new artificial port (Tanjong Priok), is also an important commercial city. Singapore, a British possession, with a harbor of ample depth commanding the gateway connecting the Indian and Pacific oceans, is regularly visited by some



fifty lines of steamships. Like Hong-kong, it is an absolutely free port, without a custom house; and it is the greatest coaling and transshipment port in the Far East.

As the exports are mainly raw materials and condiments, the imports are naturally manufactures and foodstuffs. The share of the United States in the commerce of the East Indies, both Dutch and English, is insignificant, and it consists chiefly of American purchases.

**342. Indo-China.** Indo-China is aptly named, the people being of Mongolian origin, while their religion (Buddhism) and civilization came from India. Only Siam remains for the present independent, serving as a buffer state between French Indo-China<sup>1</sup> and Burma, the latter now a part of British India.

Siam and French Indo-China are largely rugged and forest-clad, impenetrable except along the water ways. The population is therefore mainly settled in the lower river valleys, where the soil is exuberantly fertile, but the damp tropical climate "repays careful avoidance" by Europeans.

**343. Products and Commerce of Indo-China.** By far the most important commercial crop is rice, grown on the deltas of the great rivers. (Fig. 220.) Other plantation products are

42%	20%	13%	9%	16%
India 4,817 million lbs.	Siam 2,068	French Indo-China 1,369	Malay Pen. 885	All others 1,704

Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907

FIG. 220. Sources of rice exports. Total in 1906 (millions of pounds), 10,333.

pepper from Siam, and tea from French Indo-China. Next to rice, however, the leading export is teak timber, which is proof against the attacks of ants and marine worms. Minerals of many kinds abound, but few are worked, except coal along the Songkoi River. There are, moreover, a number of rice and lumber mills.

<sup>1</sup>Comprising Cochin-China, acquired 1859; Cambodia, 1863; Tong-king, 1873; Annam, 1883; Laos, 1893.

Transportation depends in general on the rivers,<sup>1</sup> though several short railways are open and others are projected. The most important line follows the Songkoi to the Chinese frontier and now extends to Yünnan. This is part of a French plan for the commercial conquest of southern China.

The chief commercial centers are Haifong on the Songkoi River; Saigon on deep water connecting with the Mekong in the French possessions; and Bangkok on the Menam, in Siam. At Bangkok the shipping is now nearly all German. Hanoi, the capital of French Indo-China, is accessible to large river steamers.

**344. India and Ceylon.** India is, like China, a world in itself, containing more people than North and South America, Australia, and all the islands of the Pacific. Yet India has no unity except that imposed by British rule. It is, in fact, a museum of races, languages, and religions.<sup>2</sup> Religious wars have filled India like Java with splendid and melancholy ruins of past greatness; and to-day the strong hand of Great Britain with difficulty restrains the mutual hatred of Brahmins and Mohammedans, which frequently breaks out in massacres of one another. Should England retire, therefore, Russia or Germany would promptly step into her place.

A fourth of India is still ruled by several hundred native chiefs who swear allegiance to the King of England—who is also Emperor of India—much as feudal vassals were wont to do in the Middle Ages.

In addition to the feudatory states, Nepál, Bhután, and Balúchistán are British protectorates attached to India. Ceylon, on the other hand, is a British colony independent of India.

<sup>1</sup>The Songkoi is navigable beyond the Chinese frontier; the Mekong to Khong, where a railway goes past the rapids; and the Menam to the main forks. The lowlands are also traversed by a network of canals. These largely take the place of streets in Bangkok, the "Venice of the East."

<sup>2</sup>Embracing the black, white, and yellow races; upwards of a hundred native tongues, and six religions besides Christianity. that count their adherents by millions. The most numerous are the worshippers of Brahma, over 200,000,000; and the Mohammedans, over 60,000,000.

**345. Surface and Climate of India and Ceylon.** India bears some resemblance to Italy, having a great plain in the north and a mountainous peninsula toward the south. Ceylon moreover, corresponds in position to Sicily, but contains a core of very lofty mountains.

The temperature varies with the elevation, from the deadly tropical swamps of the Ganges-Brahmaputra delta to the Himálayas (Abode of Snow).

The moisture is governed by the winds. In winter during the northeast trade, some rain falls on the east coast from



Courtesy of the Forest Service

FIG. 221 *Elephants hauling teak logs in Burma.*

Madras south; but the very life of India depends upon the southwest monsoon, generated by the heat of the continent in summer. The rainfall is heaviest in the east, uncertain in the center, and least in the Indus region, on account of Africa and Arabia, which by their intense heat in summer break the force of the monsoon blowing toward India. Irrigation is extensively practiced, especially in the west and northwest.

**346. Animal Products of India and Ceylon.** Pearls are found in the shallow waters near Ceylon. Domestic animals are very numerous, including buffaloes for plowing and elephants for work in the jungles (Fig. 221); but all the native

religions except Mohammedanism taboo the eating of meat. Stock-raising for the market is therefore a separate business only in the dry Mohammedan west. Hides and wool, however, figure among the exports.

**347. Forests of India and Ceylon.** Valuable timber is plentiful only in a few districts, teak (Fig. 221) chiefly in Burma, deodar (a giant cedar) on the Himálayan foothills, and in the lee of the western Gháts, where also are found sal for building and sandalwood for furniture. The omnipresent bamboo serves all purposes among the natives. The forests also yield many tanning substances, the most important being cutch (*catechu*) and myrobalans, besides wild silk and gum-lac, a substance deposited on trees by insects. From this substance shellac, used in sealing wax, also as a dye and in finishing woodwork, is derived.

**348. Cultivated Products of India and Ceylon.** Tropical fruits are of prime importance in the daily life of the people. The cocoanut on the coasts and islands,<sup>1</sup> the date palm in the dry west, furnish both food and fibers. Ceylon also exports large quantities of cocoanuts, copra, cocoa oil, and coir, the fibrous husk of the cocoanut. The mango is the main support of the peasants in many districts between harvests. The cereals for local use are rice in Burma and the moist east; millet in the dry west.

India leads the world in the production of jute, of which it has a virtual monopoly, indigo, and oil seeds—chiefly linseed, rape, sesame, and castor beans. India also leads in the

59%	27%	9%	5%
India and Ceylon 899 million lbs.	China 187	Japan and Formosa 63	Others All others 83

Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907

FIG. 222. *Sources of tea exports. Total in 1906 (millions of lbs.), 682.* export of tea (Fig. 222), grown on the uplands of Ceylon and the Himálayas, and ranks next to the United States

<sup>1</sup>Ceylon has twice as much land in cocoanuts as in tea. Cocoanuts are also the chief product of the Andaman, Nicobar, Laccadive, and Maldive islands, all attached to the government of India.

in cotton. (Fig. 84.) Rubber culture has also taken root in Ceylon as in Malaysia. Since the Russo-Japanese war, which raised the price of camphor, plantations of the camphor laurel have been established in Ceylon, the trees being frequently interplanted with tea. There is, in addition, a considerable export of wheat, here a winter crop, from the western provinces. (Fig. 43.) In the extreme south some coffee is grown, together with spices—cinnamon, pepper, ginger, and nutmegs. The growing of poppies for the manufacture of opium has been a leading industry, but the

37%	21%	21%	5%	10%
Russia	India	Brazil	Germany	All others
427 thousand tons	253	234	83	187

Data from Mineral Resources of U. S., 1907

FIG. 223. *World's production of manganese ore.*  
Total in 1906, 1,153 thousand tons.

70%	8%	7%	6%
Ceylon	U. S.	Austria	All others
3,406 thousand dollars	840	284	276

Data from Mineral Resources of U. S., 1907

FIG. 224. *Value of graphite mined. Total*  
in 1906, 4,316 thousand dollars.

government of China, where most of the drug is marketed, has recently taken a strong stand against the opium traffic.

**349. Mineral Products of India and Ceylon.** India is not, on the whole, rich in minerals. It is, however, an important producer of manganese and mica. Since the Russo-Japanese War, indeed, India bids fair to become the principal source of manganese. (Fig. 223.) Gold is also mined near Mysore, the works being run by electricity. Burma is the chief source of rubies, now more costly than diamonds, and of jade, a stone greatly prized by the Chinese. Ceylon is the source of much of the world's graphite. (Fig. 224.) Mineral fuels are also present, petroleum being obtained in Burma and piped to Rangoon, while coal is mined near Calcutta. The coal fields are large but most of the coal is of poor quality and not adjacent to iron or limestone.

**350. Manufactures of India and Ceylon.** The traditional manufactures are hand-made textiles such as cashmere shawls, and handicraft work in metal, ivory, and leather.

51%	19%	9%	6%	5%	10%
India 4.2 million bales	Great Britain 1.6	Germany 1	U.S. .5	France .4	All others .8

Data furnished by Bureau of Statistics, Dept. of Agriculture

FIG. 225. *Jute manufactures, as shown by consumption of raw material. Total in 1905: 8,235,726 bales of 400 pounds, all grown in India.*

Power machinery has now been introduced for cotton at Bombay, jute and paper at Calcutta, leather at Cawnpur, and iron at Bengal. In fact India, having the raw material at hand and cheap labor, leads in jute manufacture. (Fig. 225.) There is even some export trade in cotton and jute goods, especially of coarse cottons to China. (Fig. 226.) As yet, however, India is almost exclusively agricultural, nearly all the people (95 per cent) living in small villages.

**351. Commerce of India and Ceylon.** Water ways are fairly abundant. "Mother Ganges" is the great highway of Central India, being easily navigable to Cawnpur. The Brahmaputra is used to Assam; the Iráwadi to Bhamo (800 miles), though large river boats stop at Mandalay. The Indus, however, is so shifting that steamer traffic has ceased, and the Deccan rivers are broken by numerous rapids.

Land transportation has been revolutionized since the Mutiny (1857), in part for military reasons. There is now a network of excellent wagon roads and of railways, the latter embracing two-thirds of the railway mileage in Asia. From the railway termini caravan routes reach Persia, Afghanistan, southwestern China, and also the broad mountain valleys of Tibet, since the Lhasa expedition (1904) opened that country to commerce.

The coast is deficient in harbors. Calcutta, the metropolis, is a river port constantly endangered by the pace and volume of the Ganges; Madras, the third city in size, and Colombo at

the crossroads of the Indian Ocean, have artificial harbors. The best harbor is that of Bombay, the second city, which is sheltered by islands. Owing to its position, it has profited greatly from the Suez Canal. Karáchi, a new port near the Indus, is the outlet of the Punjab, as Rangoon on the Iráwadi is of Burma.

Portugal still holds Goa and other stations on the west, France has Pondichéry and other towns chiefly on the east coast—melancholy relics of Indian empires that have passed away.

**352. The Plateau of Iran.** From the Indus to the Tigris and northward to the Caspian stretches a great plateau, rimmed with mountains, and arid because not exposed to the

	15%	12%	11%	10%	10%	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%	14%
<i>Exports by articles.....</i>	Raw cotton 83 million dollars	Rice 66	Jute mfg. 50	Raw jute 58	Oil seeds 54	Hides 36	Cotton mfg. 30	Tea 33	Wheat 30	Opium 28	All others 81
	67%						7%	26%			
<i>Imports by countries.....</i>	From Great Britain 281 million dollars						British India 51	All other countries 109			

U. S. Consular Reports, Ann., No. 28

FIG. 226. *Commerce of India. Totals in 1908 (millions of dollars): exports 563, largely to Great Britain (16%), China, and Germany; imports 421, the largest items being cotton goods, sugar, iron and steel, and other manufactures.*

full force of the southwest monsoon. This plateau contains Afghanistan, Balúchistán, and Persia. The Persians are in part of Aryan descent, but most of the inhabitants of the Iranian Plateau are related to the Turks; and all are fiercely Mohammedan. In Persia, however (shades of Darius and Xerxes!), a parliament has been established (1906) in imitation of Japan. The Shah, indeed, soon proceeded to cannonade the parliament, but lost his throne in consequence.

**353. Products of the Iranian Plateau.** Though so unpromising to the eye, most of the plateau furnishes pasturage for camels, sheep, and goats. The pastoral exports comprise wool, hides, and lamb skins, the last named valued as furs.

Moreover, the irrigated districts in the valleys and along the foot of the mountains are highly productive, like the lovely vale of Shiraz, renowned in Persian poetry for roses and wine and nightingales. The agricultural exports embrace dried fruits and nuts (chiefly raisins, almonds, pistachios), raw cotton and silk, opium, rice,<sup>1</sup> and gums, especially assafoetida. The latter is a villainous-smelling substance used in medicines, and also eaten in India.

Other commercial products are pearls from the Persian Gulf, sturgeon from the Caspian rivers, and the finest turquoises from Nishapur. The other mineral resources, though



FIG. 227. *Persian traders with pack camels.*

rich and varied, are undeveloped. The native wool and silk, however, are extensively woven into rugs on hand looms and dyed with native vegetable dyes.<sup>2</sup>

These oriental rugs are exported chiefly to the United States. The imports, both of Afghanistan and Persia, are mainly

<sup>1</sup>Rice is the principal cereal, growing up to 4,000 feet in this latitude, while cotton matures up to 6,500 feet, wheat and barley to 9,000 feet.

<sup>2</sup>Mainly indigo, madder, safflower, and senna, which are believed to fade much less than aniline dyes. Some senna is exported. The centers of rug manufacture in Persia are Tabriz, Sultanabad, and Meshed. Brocades are also made at Tabriz, shawls at Kerman, woolen felts at Ispahan.



cotton goods and other manufactures, besides sugar and tea. The bulk of the imports are supplied by Russia, with Great Britain next in rank.

**354. Trade Routes of the Iranian Plateau.** Commerce is still mainly by caravan, though wagon roads now extend from the Russian frontier well into Persia, and from India to Kábul and Kandahar. (Fig. 227.) Most of the trade with India goes through the historic Kháibar Pass, which has echoed to every invasion of India by land except that of Alexander the Great.<sup>1</sup> Other trade routes begin at Trebizond and various ports on the Tigris and the Persian Gulf.<sup>2</sup>

Afghanistan is in form, and Persia in fact, a buffer state between the British and the Russian possessions in Asia. Afghanistan has no relations with other nations except through Great Britain. In Persia, the northern two-thirds are recognized as within the Russian, and the southern part as within the British, sphere of influence, while the center is a neutral zone. International rivalry has hitherto blocked the construction of railroads. By far the best route for an Indo-European railway traverses Kháibar Pass and the great valley of Herat, "whose history is the history of Central Asia."

<sup>1</sup>Another Indo-Persian trade route starts from Nushki, beyond Quetta, which was reached by the railway in 1906.

<sup>2</sup>Bushire, Bender Abbas, and Lingah, all exposed roadsteads, on the Persian Gulf; Bagdad and Mohammera, where lateral valleys open from the east, on the Tigris.

## XXV—WESTERN ASIA

*"Where the Turks are, there also are the wolves."*

*"Where the Turk's horse treads, no grass grows."*

—*Popular Proverbs.*

**355. Why Western Asia is of Special Interest.** In Turkey, as in China, a race and a civilization have been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

The region between the Persian Gulf, the Black Sea, and the Mediterranean, more than any other in the world, is historic ground, sown with ruins that impress even the most careless beholder. Here rose and fell mighty empires whose trade supported the princely commercial cities of Phœnicia and Mesopotamia. Here and in Egypt were developed the practical arts which still form the basis of our civilization.

Moreover from the days when, according to Homer, Hector and Achilles fought beneath the walls of Troy, western Asia has been the theater of a never-ending conflict between the East and the West. Conquered by Alexander, ruled for centuries by Rome, and Christianized as far east as the Tigris, this region was finally overrun by horde after horde of nomads—Arabs (A. D. 635), Turks (1071), Mongols, and Tartars—who destroyed villages and cities, rendering agriculture impossible in order that their flocks might have pasturage. So thorough was their work of destruction that only in the islands and in the mountains, particularly of Lebanon and Armenia, do the native Christians still predominate.

**356. The Decay of Islam.** To-day, however, European civilization, armed with steam and electricity and mail-clad fleets that replace the mail-clad warriors of crusading days, is mighty, while Mohammedan Asia is weak. Only the inability of European nations to agree has so long suffered the Turk to desolate and pollute with robbery and murder one of the fairest lands in the world; only the successor of the Turk remains to be chosen.

Seeing the handwriting on the wall which foretold the doom of Turkey unless regenerated, and inspired by Japan's example, a reform party among the Turkish army officers indeed forced the Sultan (Abdul Hamid II) to proclaim a constitution (1908), and then dethroned him. But if there is no god but Allah—and Mohammed is his prophet—and the Sultan is his Vice Regent on Earth, what place is there for a Parliament in any Mohammedan country?

**357. Arabia.** Arabia is a third the size of the United States. Though usually conceived as a sea of sand, the center of Arabia is occupied by a plateau (the Nejd, 5,000 feet elevation) "with long, undulating slopes covered with pasture, and deep, narrow valleys in which lie irrigated gardens and plantations." This plateau is the true home of the Arabs, whence they spread as far as Spain and Java, destroying and founding empires. In the Nejd they still maintain their independence of the Turk, who rules the Red Sea coast. The Nejd is likewise the home of the peerless Arabian horse and the camel, which have been no mean factors in the spread of Arabian dominion.

**358. Products of Arabia.** The coast of Arabia is rimmed with lofty mountains<sup>1</sup> which condense the moisture of the winds passing over them into heavy rains and even snows, especially in the southwest—the *Arabia Felix* or Araby the Fortunate of the ancients. This region exports Mocha coffee, grown on the terraced and irrigated mountain slopes, besides sheep and goatskins. The shipping ports are Aden and Hodaïda, whence a railway has been surveyed inland to the important city of Sana.<sup>2</sup> The Hadramut Valley in the south is famous for fragrant resins which are burned as incense (myrrh, frankincense). These were among the earliest and most valuable articles of commerce. Oman in the southeast, independent of Turkey but a virtual British

<sup>1</sup>Exceeding 10,000 feet in places. An elevation of 10,000 feet in latitude 15° gives an average temperature like that of St. Paul, Minn., in latitude 45°.

<sup>2</sup>About 200 miles inland, at an elevation of 7,500 feet which gives a temperate climate.

protectorate, produces dates for export; and the Bahrein Islands, a British possession, have important pearl beds.

**359. The Commerce of Arabia.** The Arabs with their "ships of the desert" early became great caravan traders. They were also early driven by their location and necessities to fare in ships across the sea. Since prehistoric times they have had close relations with eastern Africa to the Zambezi, and southern Asia to Java. Before the discovery of the Cape route to India, they entirely controlled the commerce of the Indian Ocean.

Since the opening of the Suez Canal, the ports of Maskat and Aden have again become distributing points for the commerce of the adjacent parts of Asia and Africa. Aden, situated on a splendid crater harbor, the best within a radius of a thousand miles, is a fortified British coaling and naval station, commanding the approach to the Suez Canal:

Mecca, where Mohammed was born, is the center of the Mohammedan world, which each devout believer faces at prayer and is bidden to visit at least once during his lifetime. These pilgrimages have given rise to a great fair at Mecca, like those of Europe in the Middle Ages. A railway has been surveyed between Mecca and its port of Jedda, and another has been constructed by the Sultan from Damascus through Medina on the way to Mecca.

The exports of Arabia are chiefly coffee, hides, dates, and fragrant resins; the imports are cotton goods and other manufactures. Curiously enough, and for no apparent reason except the preference of the natives, American cotton goods, which do not compete successfully with British cottons in Mexico or South America, are extensively sold at Aden for use in Arabia and Africa.

**360. Asiatic Turkey.** Turkey-in-Asia embraces three natural divisions, exclusive of Arabia.

Along the Mediterranean is a narrow plain, backed by a belt of hills culminating in the twin mountain ranges of Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon. Between these ranges runs a remarkable

"rift valley," caused by a great fracture of the earth's crust, which is occupied by the Jordan, the Dead Sea, and farther south by the Red Sea. This coastal region is Syria. (Fig. 228.)

East of the coastal region is a broken plateau averaging 2,000 feet elevation, and sloping eastward into a lowland which is traversed by the Euphrates and Tigris rivers. This lowland is Mesopotamia. (Fig. 228.)

Toward the north is a broad and lofty plateau (3,000–8,000 feet high), edged with loftier mountains. This plateau is

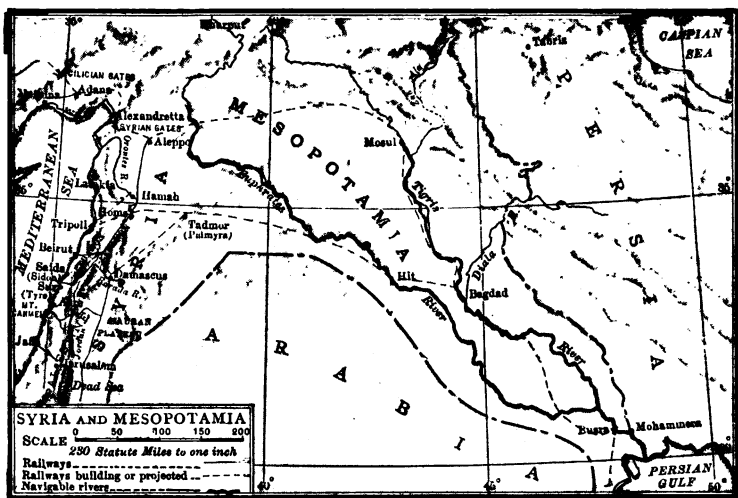


FIG. 228. *Syria and Mesopotamia.*

Anatolia or Asia Minor. (Fig. 201.) Toward the east it connects with the Plateau of Iran. It was by this plateau route, which offered an unobstructed passage for their flocks, that the Turks and other nomads came from central Asia.

In latitude and climate, Syria corresponds to southern California, Mesopotamia to Arizona and New Mexico, Anatolia to northern California and the great plateau stretching eastward a thousand miles to Colorado. Asiatic Turkey, excluding Arabia, is about half the size of the United States west of the Dakotas.

The prevailing language is Arabic south, and Turkish north, of the Orontes, though Armenian is spoken in parts of the northeastern mountains, and Greek in Cyprus and the other Turkish islands as well as along the coast of the Ægean. Since the Crusades, however, the language of intercourse with foreigners has been French or the mongrel dialect called *Lingua Franca*.

**361. Stock and Forest Products.** The wealth of Turkey is largely in its flocks, especially sheep eastward of the Jordan where the shepherds of old "watched their flocks by night." Angora goats also abound on the lofty plateau of Anatolia. The fleece of these goats, called mohair, is longer and whiter than wool. The principal beast of burden is the camel. Wool, mohair, and hides are collectively the largest export.

Forests occur on the seaward mountain slopes, especially along the Black Sea, but only in remote districts, as the forests have been largely destroyed to furnish firewood and charcoal. The exported forest products embrace the acorn cups of the valonia oak, and galls or excrescences from another kind of oak, both used for tanning; gum tragacanth, used in calico printing; and mastic, a gum used for chewing. The licorice plant also grows wild, and the roots are largely exported to the United States.

**362. The Need of Irrigation in Asiatic Turkey.** By reason of the summer drought, which increases in severity in the sub-tropical zone toward the south (§190), as in California, agriculture as a rule depends on irrigation. This fact goes far to explain the striking vicissitudes of fortune which western Asia has experienced; for if the artificial water supply be interrupted even for a year, the sands of the desert hasten to reclaim their own. Thus the hill country of Palestine, which the Hebrews found 'flowing with milk and honey,' and where every man could sit "under his own vine and fig tree," is now but a wilderness of barren rocks, the soil having been washed away after the forests were destroyed. And the words of the prophet who foretold that Babylon should

become a den of wild beasts have been literally fulfilled; for the irrigation system having gone to ruin, the floods of winter have turned vast tracts of Mesopotamia into a fever-breeding marsh, dotted by low mounds marking the sites of splendid cities, while beyond the marsh all is desert.

**363. Farm Products of Asiatic Turkey.** Cereals, chiefly barley and wheat, are grown in the plains of Syria along the sea;<sup>1</sup> also, between the ranges of Lebanon and in the edge of the Hauran plateau east of the Jordan; likewise in the moister parts of the Anatolian plateau, especially around Sivas. Barley is an article of export, but the wheat crop is insufficient for domestic use. The staple commercial products are raw silk, subtropical fruits, opium, tobacco, and cotton. The Beirut and Brusa districts are especially noted for silk, Mesopotamia for dates, Jaffa for oranges and lemons, Haifa for olives, Latakia and Samsun for tobacco, Smyrna for opium, raisin grapes, and figs, Cyprus for carobs. These are pods growing on trees and said to be the "locusts" on which St. John subsisted in the wilderness.

In recent years (since 1902) American machinery has invaded these ancient lands, where grain through all the ages had been reaped by hand and threshed by oxen driven around in a circle. (Fig. 95.) The first reaper created the greatest sensation since Mohammed preached his new religion, and nearly caused a riot among the Arabs, who complained that it left nothing for them to glean. Threshers, steam plows, and oil motors for irrigation purposes have also made their appearance on a few great estates.

**364. Other Products of Asiatic Turkey.** In the Turkish islands<sup>2</sup> sponge fishing is the leading industry. Almost the entire population of the smaller islands, except Khio and Samos, which contain fertile soil, follows the sea as sailors or fishermen.

<sup>1</sup>Including the historic plains of Esdraelon, Sharon, and Philistia.

<sup>2</sup>Greek in speech and Christian in religion, as indeed is the case on all the coasts of Asia Minor. Samos and Crete are ruled by Christian princes tributary to Turkey; and Cyprus has been "administered" (since 1878) by Great Britain.

The mineral resources are rich and varied but largely undeveloped, as in Persia. Thus, oil fields have been located in Mesopotamia,<sup>1</sup> and coal, adjacent to iron, underlies much of the Anatolian plateau. The minerals actually mined are asphaltum on the Jordan, copper and silver near Kharput, chromium, antimony, and emery in the Smyrna district. Turkey is the largest producer of chromium ore.

The manufactures are principally hand-made textiles, leather, and copper goods. The industrial center for these is Damascus, located where the Barada River, after cutting a gorge through the Anti-Lebanon range, irrigates a valley of surpassing fertility. Beirut and Brusa carry on the silk industry in primitive fashion. Smyrna is noted for rugs and carpets, though Turkish and Kurdish rugs, being now dyed with aniline colors, are not in good repute. The "Smyrna" rugs sold in the United States, however, are mostly made in Philadelphia.

**365. The Commerce of Asiatic Turkey.** Asiatic Turkey exports chiefly raw materials, besides fruits and rugs, and imports mainly cotton and woolen manufactures, together with foodstuffs such as sugar, wheat, and rice.

The present commerce of Asiatic Turkey is, however, no measure of its resources. The geographic conditions that made possible in this region such prosperous nations in ancient times have not ceased to exist. For example, there is no doubt that Mesopotamia, where wheat was probably native, would again become under European control one of the granaries of the world. It is the human factor here, as throughout the Orient, that limits commerce. The greatest enemy of Turkish commerce is the Turk.

Moreover, western Asia formed in ancient times the great "highway of nations"; and through its gateways, once railways are built, there will again pour the commerce of two continents.

<sup>1</sup>The ancient Greek legend of the Chimæra, a fire-breathing monster, seems to have originated from a column of burning natural gas on the coast of Asia Minor north of Cape Khelidonia. (Mineral Industry, 1902.)



Already the Bagdad Railway is advancing from the west, "scattering before it the Arabian locusts which have so long held possession of these plains."

**366. Trade Routes of Western Asia.** Commercial centers in Mesopotamia have always arisen opposite passes in the Persian mountains.

The gorge of the Diala, the famous "Median Gate" to Persia, determined the location of ancient Babylon and a whole dynasty of great cities—Seleucia, Ctesiphon, Bagdad—in successive ages. (Fig. 3.) Thence the shortest overland route to the Mediterranean leads through the edge of the Syrian desert by way of Damascus to Beirut or Haifa, on artificial harbors not far from the sites of ancient Tyre and Sidon. From Damascus a narrow gauge cog railway goes over the Lebanon range (5,200 feet) to Beirut, and a standard gauge railway, longer but with easier grades, reaches Haifa through Yarmuk Valley and the plain of Esdraelon, which has been trodden by caravans and armies in all ages.<sup>1</sup> Northward from Damascus, a branch line traverses the plain to Aleppo; while southward the railway toward Mecca has been built by the Sultan to carry the pilgrim traffic and insure to himself a firmer grip on the headship of the Mohammedan world. Damascus, the oldest existing city in the world, has thus become the railway center of modern Syria.

The valley of the Zab Ala likewise determined the location of ancient Nineveh and modern Mosul, which occupies almost the same site. Thence another trade route, in use for ages, runs westward through Aleppo, the Damascus of the North, and the Orontes Valley, to the Mediterranean. The modern port of this region is Alexandretta, having the only good natural harbor in Syria, and easily accessible from the interior through the defile called the Syrian Gates. Alexandretta has

<sup>1</sup>Along the River Kishon. The Litani (Leontes) Valley, nearly opposite the Barada Gorge, was used by ancient Tyre and Sidon to avoid the climb over Lebanon; but the coast near the Litani is now harborless. Haifa and Acre are on the same bay, sheltered toward the south by Mount Carmel.

therefore an excellent site for commerce, whenever railways shall restore overland trade to its former importance.

These two caravan routes—the one through Damascus, Bagdad, and southern Persia, the other through Alexandretta, Mosul, Teheran, Herat, and Kábul—mark the natural routes for a “Southern Pacific” and a “Central Pacific” to India and China, which must some day parallel the “Northern Pacific,” already built by Russia across Siberia.

The principal commercial ports in Asia Minor are Trebizond and Samsun on the Black Sea; and Smyrna, having the best natural harbor on the *Ægean*. Smyrna has now three railways inland, one connecting it with the Bagdad line. This railway, a German enterprise, starts on the Bosphorus opposite Constantinople, at the new port of Haidar Pasha, where a car ferry lands trains from Europe without change of passengers or freight. The southern or main line of the Bagdad Railway, descending from the plateau<sup>1</sup> near Adana, will connect there with a line to the port of Mersina. Thence the Bagdad road will traverse the fertile belt along the foot of the plateau to Mosul, and follow the Tigris through Bagdad and Busra, the head of navigation for small sea-going vessels, to a deep-water port on the Persian Gulf, where a great commercial city is destined to arise.

<sup>1</sup>Through the Cilician Gates, elevation 3,500 feet, a defile famous in history.

## XXVI—AFRICA

**367. The Right of Conquest.** Nations come and go like leaves on the forest trees; the earth remains.

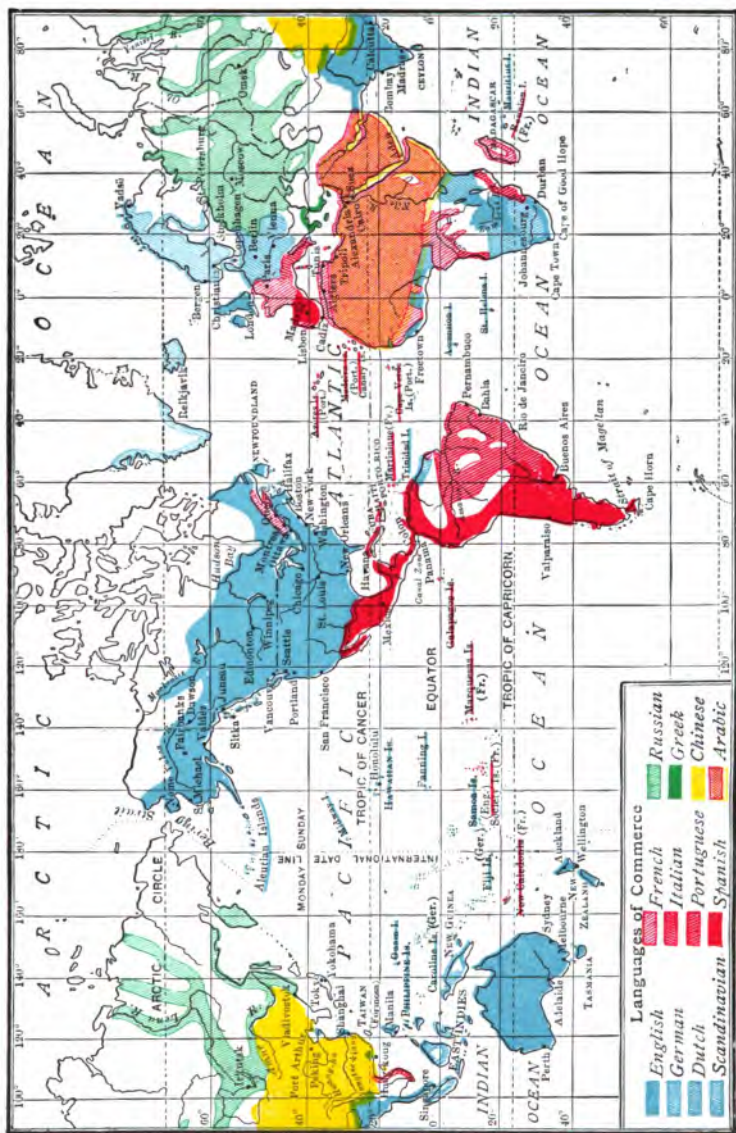
It would seem, therefore, that no nation can have a perpetual title-deed to any part of the earth. It belongs to mankind. At all events, few will seriously maintain that the rest of the human race must forever be denied access to the riches of a land because the inhabitants, perhaps a few naked savages whom chance has placed there, will neither develop the resources of the country themselves nor suffer others so to do.

The European conquest and partition of Africa, though far from justifiable in many of its methods and incidents, is therefore on the whole a justifiable process, carrying light into dark places and placing immense natural resources at the disposal of mankind.

**368. The Inhabitants of Africa.** Africa south of the Sahara was the original seat of the negro race. In the region north of the Sahara the first inhabitants (Berbers) were of Caucasian stock; later came the Arabs (A. D. 640) who were also originally Caucasians. But the slave trade has introduced so much negro blood along the Mediterranean that Shakspeare was right in representing the Moor Othello as colored.

The camel-owning Arabs, crossing the Sahara, have now established the faith of Mohammed over all the pastoral plateau to Zanzibar in the east, and almost to the Gulf of Guinea in the west, stopping only at the edge of the forested lowlands.

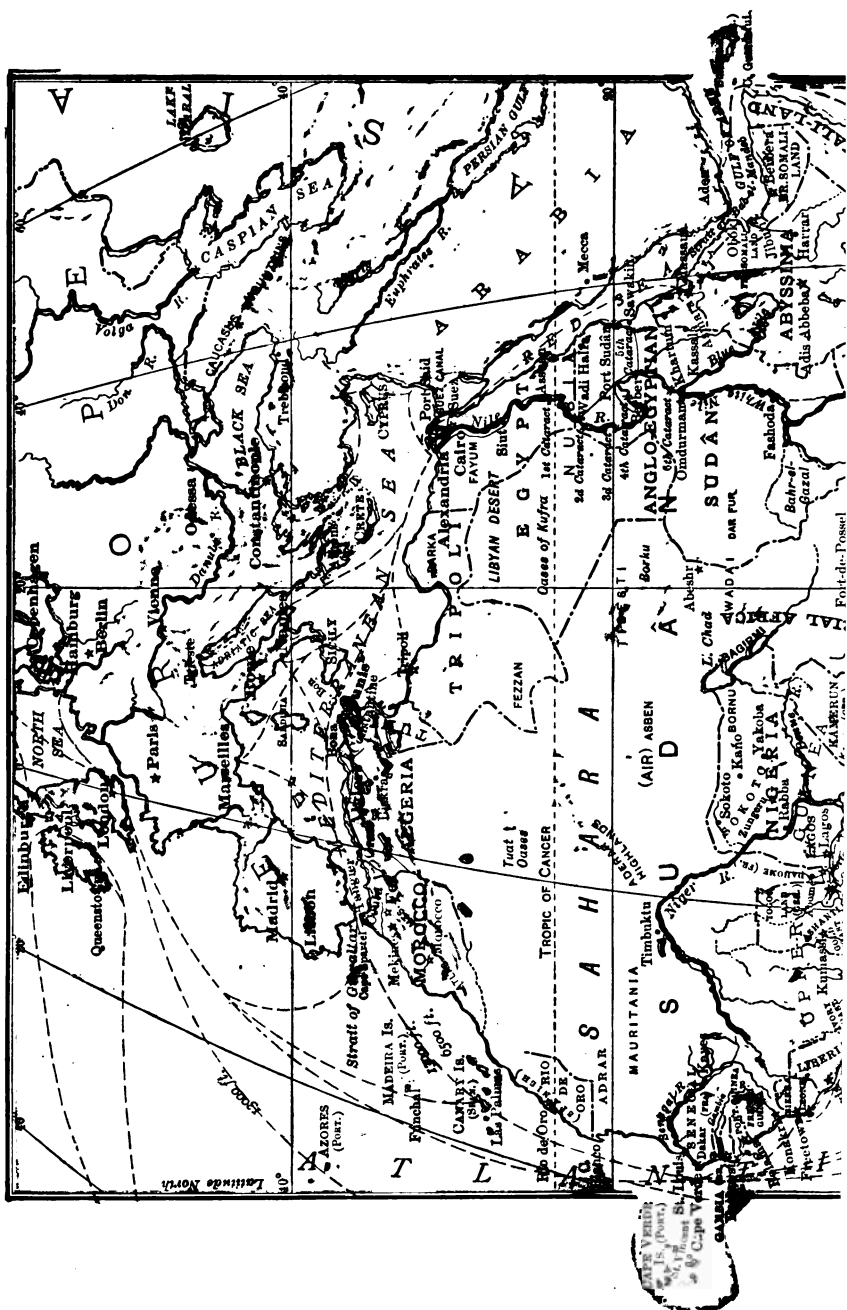
The map of Africa to-day resembles that of America in the seventeenth century, showing the same patchwork of colonies without natural boundaries. (Fig. 230.) These colonies are mostly the children of accident and diplomacy, incapable of withstanding the first shock of arms.



Data from Bartholomew's Atlas of World's Commerce

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FIG. 229. The principal languages of commerce.



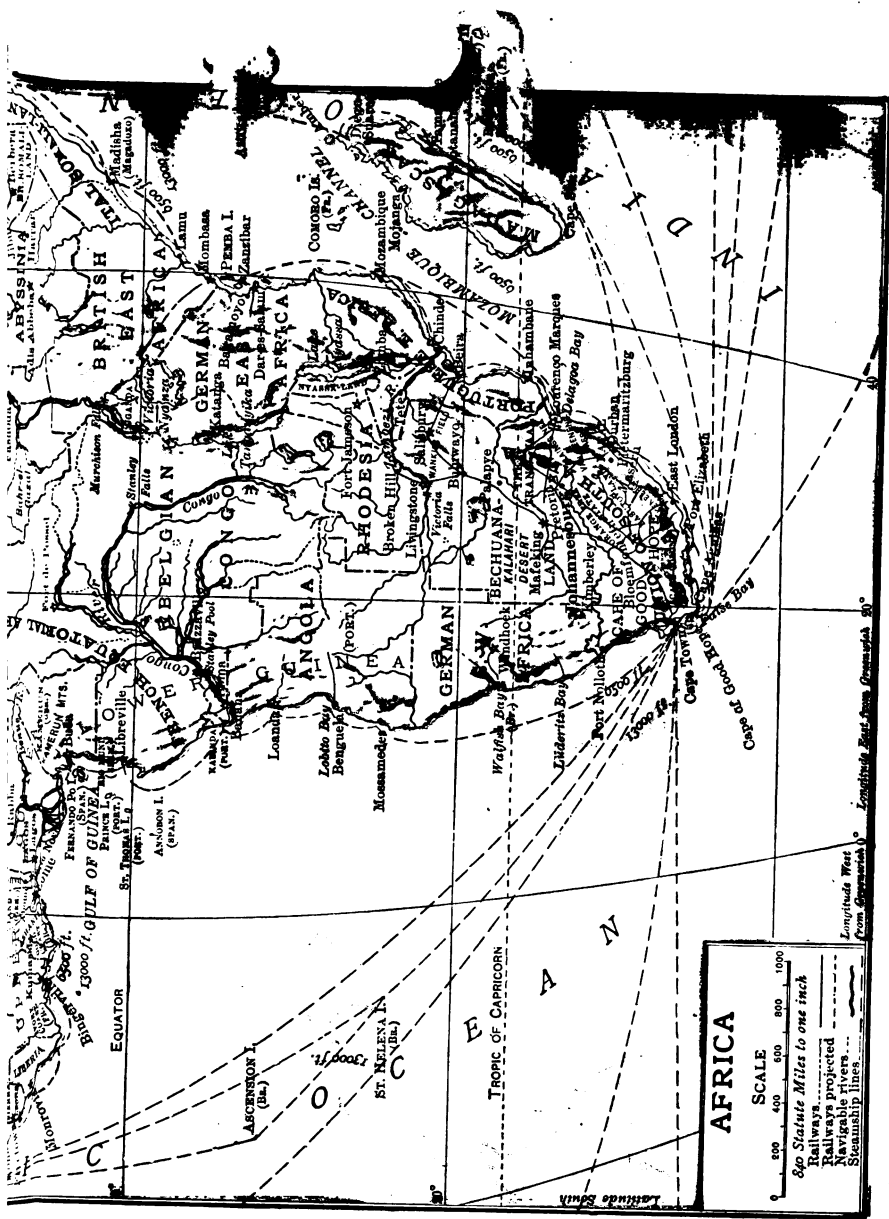


FIG. 230. Africa.

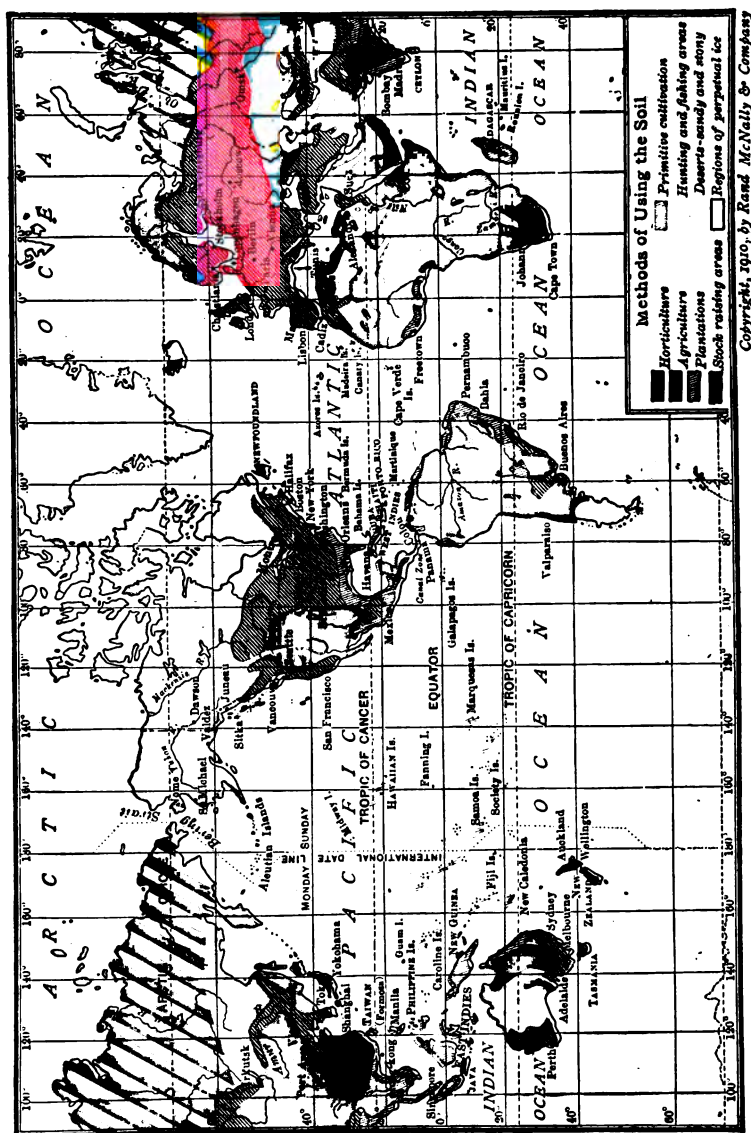


FIG. 231. Methods of using the soil.



Courtesy of Clarence T. Johnston

FIG. 232. *The "shaduf", a method of irrigation used in Egypt since the early Pharaohs.*



**369. The Continent of Africa.** Africa, though no longer a land of fable and mystery, is still the "Dark Continent" in point of civilization, because the least accessible and the most tropical.

It has proportionately the least coast line; and being for the most part an elevated plateau, the rivers are nearly all broken a short distance inland, where they plunge over the edge of the plateau.

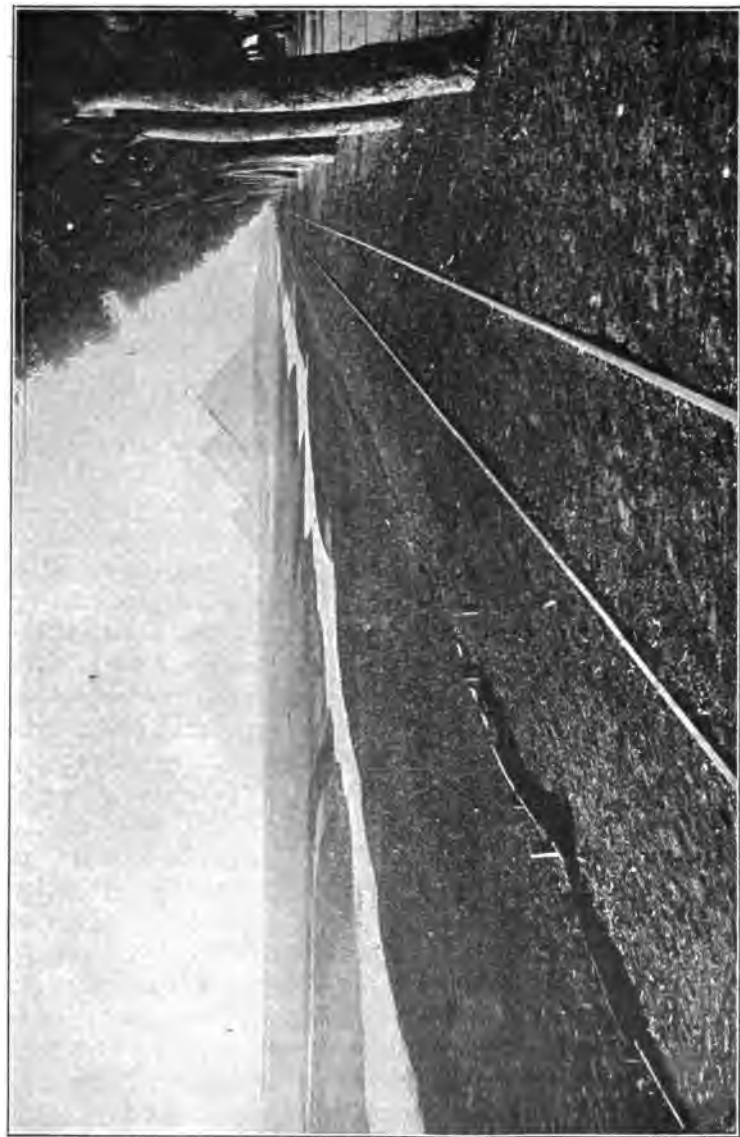
Africa is the most characteristically tropical because the equator crosses almost the center of the continent. Africa thus has a complete series of climatic belts, from North Temperate to South Temperate (§48).

As in South America, however, the great elevation of the plateau above sea level carries a fairly temperate climate far within the Tropics; especially along the backbone of the continent, extending from Abyssinia to the Cape of Good Hope.

**370. Natural Resources of Egypt.** Egypt is, in the words of Herodotus, "the gift of the Nile." The river, swollen by summer rains in equatorial Africa, both waters and fertilizes its valley, stretching like a narrow ribbon of green through the wide, thirsty desert. For this reason the ancient Egyptians worshiped the life-giving river as a god.

The resources of Egypt are thus almost exclusively agricultural. Land flooded by the river bears one crop, land diked and perennially irrigated (Fig. 232) bears three crops a year: in autumn, maize and millet; in winter, wheat, barley, beans, and clover; in summer, cotton and rice in the delta, sugar cane and dates in the valley, with figs in the Fayum, an old lake basin. Cotton, having a long fiber resembling sea island, is far and away the principal export.

On the upper Nile, from Berber south, there are forests, due to the heavier rainfall nearer the equator. These forests yield various gums, especially gum arabic, used in mucilage. This has, however, been partly supplanted by an artificial gum (dextrine). There is evidence that the ancient Egyptians obtained gold and other metals from the same region.



Courtesy of Clarence T. Johnston

FIG. 233. The old and the new in Egypt—Pyramids and an electric trolley.

The only extensive manufacture is the rolling of cigarettes from imported tobacco. Hand labor is largely employed.

**371. The Renaissance of Egypt.** Egypt is still nominally ruled by the Khedive, a tributary of Turkey; and in the Sudân, from Wadi Halfa to Fashoda, the Egyptian and British flags fly together. But since a mutiny in the Egyptian army compelled European interference (1882), in order to protect the Suez Canal, Egypt has been virtually a British possession.

The effects have been revolutionary. A few European officials, chosen

from among several nations, have been able, by means of honesty and economy in handling public money, to reduce taxation and abolish forced labor—the means by which the pyramids (Fig. 233) were built and all subsequent works executed—yet at the same time to pay off much of the public debt and to carry out irrigation projects of com-



Copyright, 1908, Keystone View Co.

FIG. 234. *Downstream fall of Assuan Dam with gates open.*

manding importance. These, indeed, bid fair by increasing both the area irrigated and the effectiveness of irrigation, to double the productive powers of Egypt. The great dam at Assuan (Fig. 234) is worthy to rank with anything ever done in this land of titanic achievements. Already Egypt probably exceeds in population and prosperity the palmiest days of the ancient Pharaohs.

**372. The Commerce of Egypt.** The Nile Valley is the only natural highway from central Africa to the Mediterranean. Navigation is, indeed, broken by six cataracts, but a lock and canal at Assuan now carry the head of navigation to Wadi Halfa, and a railway extends southward to Khartum.

The foreign commerce of Egypt passes chiefly through Alexandria, thus justifying the foresight of its founder. The metropolis of Egypt and of Africa, however, is Cairo, standing near the site of ancient Memphis, at the head of the delta where the railways now converge to enter the narrow valley. Cairo also has canals to Alexandria and to the Suez Canal. Port Said, at the entrance of the Suez Canal, is rising into prominence as a coaling and transshipment port. Port Sudân, a new harbor near Sawakin on the Red Sea, with a railroad to Berber on the Nile, is the outlet for the commerce of the upper Nile Valley.

**373. The Suez Canal.** The most important artificial water way in the world, measured by its commercial and political effects, is the Suez Canal.<sup>1</sup>

It effectively opened India and the Far East to European commerce. It restored to the Mediterranean countries, at the expense of London and other Atlantic ports, much of the prosperity which they enjoyed before Vasco da Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope. It brought the English to Egypt; and it compels the English, or some other European nation, permanently to garrison Egypt in order to safeguard the commerce of the world.

**374. Other North African States.** Tripoli is a Turkish province, but claimed by Italy as a "sphere of influence" against the day of Turkey's downfall. Tunis is a French protectorate. Algeria is considered a part of France.<sup>2</sup> Morocco, though nominally an independent empire, is in fact

<sup>1</sup>Opened 1869; 87 miles long, of which 21 are through lakes; passable by vessels drawing 31 feet. Deepening is in progress.

<sup>2</sup>The dates of acquisition are: Algeria, 1830; Tunis, 1881; Morocco, recognized by Great Britain as a French sphere of influence, 1904. Germany, however, has opposed French influence there.

predominantly under French influence, though Ceuta and other places on the coast have long been held by Spain. The native states having all ended in corrupt and feeble despotisms, France seems by reason of her position and power to be the natural heir of the Arab and the Turk in North Africa.

In Tripoli the Sahara meets the sea along a low, sandy shore; elsewhere, the lofty Atlas range intervenes, rising in two distinct terraces. As in Syria and southern California, rain comes in winter from the west winds, while the summer



Courtesy of Clarence T. Johnston

FIG. 235. Arab plowing in North Africa — a typical team.

is almost rainless. Irrigation is therefore indispensable to continuous cropping (Fig. 235), though in many districts grain can be grown in winter every other year without irrigation, as in the Great Basin region of North America. The best watered, and therefore the choicest, part of North Africa is Morocco, which lies the most exposed to the west winds.

North Africa is well adapted to white colonization. Algiers, indeed, lies in the latitude of St. Louis, Mo. There are already over half a million European settlers, largely Italians in Tunis, French in Algeria, Spaniards in Morocco.

**375. Products of North Africa West of Egypt.** North Africa is in the main a grazing country, pasturing sheep and goats. The arid plateau on the second rise above the coastal plain, however, grows esparto grass (alfa), used in European paper mills; and the mountains rising above this second terrace bear the cork oak. The lands in the valleys and along the foot of the mountains produce cereals, chiefly barley and wheat, also beans, chick-peas, and subtropical fruits. Almonds are especially abundant in Morocco; figs and grapes in Algeria; olives and dates in Tunis. The tobacco crop, though large, is not of high grade. In the French possessions, early vegetables for the French markets, poultry, and bees have acquired some importance.

The coastal waters produce sponges and tunny (tuna), huge fish many times the size of a man. The mineral resources are valuable. Zinc, iron, and phosphate of lime are already largely exported. Manufactures comprise Morocco leather, Fez caps, carpets, and blankets, nearly all hand work.

**376. Commerce of North Africa West of Egypt.** The principal exports are foodstuffs and raw materials, while the imports are manufactures, especially cotton goods, besides coffee and sugar.

In addition, the exports comprise ivory, ostrich feathers, gum arabic, and goatskins, which caravans bring across the Sahara as they have done for ages past. This transit trade centers at Tripoli, whence the route across the Sahara is shortest and least obstructed by mountains.

In the French possessions, railways penetrate to the edge of the Sahara, while a trunk line parallels the coast. At every step, moreover, on roads, harbors, and cities, one sees the impress of France. The transformation which she has wrought here is most impressive.

The principal ports are Tunis near ancient Carthage, now accessible by canal to seagoing vessels; Bona in eastern, Algiers in central, and Oran in western Algeria; and Tangier in Morocco, near the Strait of Gibraltar.

The Sahara, lying in the trade-wind belt, is barren wherever level. But oases, crowned with date palms and densely peopled, are found in depressions wherever the ground water reaches the surface; and also along the foot of ridges lofty enough to produce rainfall. These highlands (Tibesti, Air, Aderar), resembling the Nejd in Arabia, support a population of several millions; and the area of cultivation can be greatly extended by driving artesian wells as the French have begun to do. The commercial products, besides dates, are salt, ostrich feathers, camel's hair, and gum arabic.

**377. The Sudân.** The Sudân is a belt of grasslands over 600 miles wide (approximately 20°-10° N.), having summer rains but rainless winters like the llanos of South America. The Sudân is fertile and not unhealthful. It is by all odds the most promising part of tropical Africa, with a population of many millions, and several cities containing 70,000 to 100,000 inhabitants. The camel-owning Arabs, crossing the Sahara, have subjugated the cattle-owning and agricultural negroes of the Sudân up to the edge of the great equatorial forests, and established various well-organized Mohammedan empires, notably Sokoto and Bornu. These are now controlled by France or England.

Classified according to the principal means of support of the people, the Sahara proper is a camel zone, containing also the wild ostrich; the northern half of the Sudân is a cattle zone, while the southern half is a millet zone, raising also cotton, indigo, and tobacco. This region is the chief reliance of France and England in their attempt to become independent of the United States in the supply of raw cotton. Finally, the forested country to the south is a banana zone.

The points of departure for Mediterranean caravans are Timbuktu, on the northern bend of the Niger, and Lake Chad. A railway, however, now connects the upper Niger, above the falls, with the head of navigation (Kayes) on the Senegal, thus opening the western Sudân, as the railway from the Nile to the Red Sea has opened the eastern Sudân, to direct

European commerce. Another railway is also advancing from the southern coast through British Nigeria to Kano.

**378. The Horn of Africa.** The horn of Africa, east of the Egyptian Sudân, is chiefly a plain, arid because the monsoons, which are governed by Asia (§51), blow parallel to the coast. This plain is consequently peopled only by wandering shepherd tribes. It is now divided among three European nations.<sup>1</sup>

From this plain rises abruptly the lofty volcanic plateau of Abyssinia, the Switzerland of Africa. In this mountain fastness the Abyssinians, of mixed Arab and negro descent but Christian since the fourth century, have bade defiance alike to Mohammedans and Europeans.

All products from tropical to cold temperate can be grown at different elevations, but the pastoral mode of life prevails. The difficulty of transportation limits exports to articles of small bulk, such as gold, ivory, civet (perfume), beeswax, and coffee. Abyssinia is believed to be the original home of the upland coffee tree. The imports are largely cotton goods, of which the United States supplies a large share, as in Arabia. The railway inland to the plateau causes trade to pass mainly through the French port of Jibuti.

**379. "The World of the Great Forest."** Equatorial Africa (10°N.—10°S.), receiving heavy rains from the ascending air currents, is densely forested, particularly on the Atlantic slope. (Fig. 266.) It is peopled, especially in the lowlands, by fragments of beaten tribes who have found refuge in "the great almshouse of the Tropics," where Nature is so lavish of her bounty that no incentive remains for labor. The climate is such that West Africa is commonly called by the natives "the white man's grave." Politically, this region is cut up into a large number of colonies ruled by six different nations of Europe, besides Liberia which is nominally independent.

The most valuable products are ivory, which has been for Africa all that the fur trade was for America, and forest

<sup>1</sup>Italy has two sections of the coast, with the port of Massaua; England, the coast around Berbera; France, Obok at the entrance of the Red Sea, with the port of Jibuti.



products—especially palm oil and nuts on the west coast, rubber from a giant creeper, copal resin, camwood yielding a red dye, mangrove bark for tanning, and cola nuts, the last named furnishing a powerful stimulant.

The principal export crops are oil seeds (peanuts, sesame, castor beans) on the Senegal; lowland or Liberian coffee in the west, and upland coffee in East Africa; cocoa on the slopes of Kamerun volcano; and cloves on Zanzibar and Pemba, which supply most of the cloves of commerce. The Germans also have experimental plantations of many products, especially cotton.

Gold-bearing sands in the rivers early gave the name Gold Coast to part of the Atlantic shore.

**380. The Commerce of Equatorial Africa.** Commerce mainly follows the water ways<sup>1</sup> in West Africa, especially the Niger and the mighty Congo, the Amazon of Africa, which drains the basin of a former inland sea. There are, however, several railways, including one around Stanley Falls, on the Congo. Another line will connect the Congo with the Nile.

East Africa, on the other hand, where the lowlands are narrow, depends entirely on land transportation. A railway built by English capital now connects the fine port of Mombasa with Victoria Nyanza, next to Superior the largest lake in the world; and a German line begins at Dar-es-Salam.

The lofty plateau of East Africa, largely covered with grass or small scrub and having a climate almost temperate because of altitude, even under the equator, is the natural route of the proposed Cape-to-Cairo Railway, just as the Andean plateau is of the Pan-American.

**381. "White Man's Africa."** South of 10° S., the high plateau (3,000–7,000 feet elevation) spreads out westward, occupying almost the entire width of the continent. This section has been called "white man's Africa," being well

<sup>1</sup>The West African rivers are navigable as follows: Senegal to Kayes, 460 miles; Gambia, 220; Niger to Rabba, 450; Benue almost to source; Congo to Boma and again from Stanley Pool to Stanley Falls, offering with its tributaries 7,000 miles of navigable waters.

suited for settlement by Europeans. (Fig. 230.) The Boers show what manner of men the high veldt (plateau) produces in temperate South Africa.

Politically, most of South Africa is British, and forms a self-governing federation like Canada. The Germans and the Portuguese also have large possessions. The white population is, however, predominantly Dutch in blood. The colored population, which outnumbers the white probably ten to one, has been further recruited by Hindus imported to work the



FIG. 236. *The market place at Johannesburg.*

plantations, and by Chinese to work the mines—though the latter are being gradually sent back to China.

**382. Products of the Soil in South Africa.** The zone between  $10^{\circ}$  and  $20^{\circ}$  S., including most of Rhodesia, is a belt of grassland corresponding in latitude and climate to the Sudán. Some coffee is grown on the seaward slopes, and cotton is a promising crop on the plateau. Farther south,

on the Natal lowlands, the chief export crop is sugar cane, while the uplands grow some tea for local use.

South Africa receives summer rains chiefly from the south-east trade wind, only the southern tip having rain in winter from the westerly winds. As in Australia, the mountains on the eastern shore condense the moisture on their seaward slope, leaving most of the interior too dry for agriculture.

South Africa, therefore, is in the main a pastoral country, raising chiefly sheep and goats, with cattle on the richer pastures of the north and east. Ostrich farming is also a large industry. The zebra, immune against the tsetse fly but long reputed untamable, is both ridden and driven. In the agricultural zone, consisting of a strip perhaps 100 miles wide across the south and another 300 miles wide along the east, cereals are grown, but much food must be imported. The climate is very favorable to fruits, which command better prices because they ripen during the northern winter. The bark of a tree, the black wattle, native to Australia, is largely exported for use in tanning.

**383. Other Resources of South Africa.** South Africa near the Zambezi has been identified by some, on account of its ancient ruins, as the Ophir of King Solomon.

The Kimberley mines now supply nearly all (98 per cent) of the world's diamonds. Other diamond deposits have also begun to be worked in German Southwest Africa. The Transvaal, near Johannesburg, and Rhodesia contain the largest known deposits of gold. (Fig. 138.) South Africa is also rich in copper, lead, and zinc, especially at Broken Hill; while coal, iron, and limestone lie side by side on both flanks of the Drakenberg Range. Coal is mined in Natal and the Transvaal, also in the rich Wankies Field near Victoria Falls. Oil fields exist in Angola, and large guano deposits in the arid parts of German Southwest Africa.

Water power is also available along the edge of the plateau, especially at Victoria Falls, where the Zambezi, 2,000 yards wide, falls 450 feet and is estimated to afford twice the

power of Niagara. It, however, varies considerably with the seasons, shrinking in winter and rising in summer.

**384. Trade Routes and Trade Centers of South Africa.** The one natural water way is the Zambezi, navigable to Tete (260 miles); while a tributary is navigable, except for one break, to Lake Nyassa.

The principal railway net is in Southeast Africa. A trunk line extends from Cape Town well across the Zambezi, with several branches to the eastern coast. This is a part of the projected Cape-to-Cairo line, which is likely to be an accomplished fact long before the Pan-American Railway is completed. At Victoria Falls the Zambezi Valley narrows so as to be spanned by a bridge, the loftiest in the world, thus avoiding the steep grades and deadly climate of the lower Zambezi. The railways on the west coast are as yet short, disconnected lines; but a through line is projected from Lobito Bay,<sup>1</sup> which would save three or four days for passengers and mail between London and Johannesburg.

The ports on the south are Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, the leading grain port, and East London, all having either exposed or artificial harbors. As trade follows the lines of least resistance, it has largely shifted to ports<sup>2</sup> nearer the principal market at Johannesburg, the commercial center of the gold fields (Fig. 236); especially Durban, on a landlocked harbor now accessible to large vessels, and Lourenço Marques; on Delagoa Bay, sometimes called "the key of South Africa." The outlet of Rhodesia is Beira, another Portuguese port.

The Cape was first occupied by the Dutch, and seized by the English during the Napoleonic wars, as a station on the

<sup>1</sup>The contract provided for the building of 870 miles, to the Katanga copper district, by 1911.

<sup>2</sup>The road from Durban enters the Orange Free State through Van Reenens Pass (5,500 feet), and the Transvaal through Laings Nek, the scene of many battles. A second and more direct railway (337 miles) has been undertaken from Lourenço Marques to Johannesburg. The Beira line to Salisbury is 350 miles long and connects at Buluwayo with the Cape line.

way to India. Despite the Suez Canal, the great naval station at False Bay is still a vital link in the British Empire.

**385. The Commerce of South Africa.** The commercial importance of South Africa arises mostly from its exports of gold and diamonds, and, to a lesser extent, from wool, mohair, hides, and ostrich feathers. (Fig. 237.) The principal imports are textiles and other manufactures, besides foodstuffs. South Africa, being practically as near by water to the United States as to Europe, is a market of great promise for American commerce.

Three-fourths of the commerce of Africa originates in the temperate sections at the extremes of the continent, which

	61%	19%	20%
<i>Exports by articles.....</i>	Gold 144 million dollars	Diamonds 44	All others 47

	57%	14%	8%	8%	13%
<i>Imports by countries.....</i>	From Great Britain 72 million dollars	British possessions 15	U. S. 9.8	Germany 9.6	All others 16.6

Data from Rept. of Trade and Commerce of Canada, Feb., 1908

Data from Rept. of Trade and Commerce of Canada, Feb., 1908

FIG. 237. *Commerce of British South Africa. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 235, nearly all (95%) to Great Britain; imports, 126, mostly (65%) manufactures.*

illustrates the effect of climate; and nine-tenths of American commerce with Africa is carried on with the British possessions, which illustrates the effect of language and customs.

**386. African Islands in the Atlantic.** The Atlantic groups associated with Africa have fertile volcanic soil, but irrigation is usually needful in the lowlands. The Madeira Islands, enjoying a climate of perpetual spring, export chiefly wine and southern fruits. The Canaries—the *Insulae Fortunatae* or Fortunate Isles of the ancients—produce early vegetables, butter, and eggs, largely for the steamer trade; also a dye moss called orchilla (litmus), dyeing blue, and the cochineal insect, grown on a species of cactus and yielding a red color. The Cape Verde group, a tropical colony with a colored population, raises quantities of castor beans. The islands in the Gulf of

Guinea grow cocoa and coffee, using negro "contract" labor that is slave labor in all but name. Ascension and St. Helena—the scene of Napoleon's captivity—are practically barren and useless since the nibbling goat has destroyed the forests.

The chief value of the Atlantic islands<sup>1</sup> lies in their excellent harbors—Funchal, Las Palmas, and St. Vincent—admirably placed to serve as cable, coaling, and supply stations on the routes to South America and South Africa. For this reason they are jealously watched by the great commercial nations.

**387. African Islands in the Indian Ocean.** The islands in the Indian Ocean<sup>2</sup> are partly volcanic and partly coralline, while Madagascar is a fragment of some continent, possibly one which extended to India and Australia. The native population is a mixture of negro, Arab, Hindu, and Malay. In Mauritius, where Hindus and Chinese were imported as laborers, they have gotten hold of the landed property both in town and country, and have largely ousted their former employers.

The products of Madagascar are gold, cattle from the lofty temperate plateau, and forest products from the slopes, especially rubber, raffia (a palm fiber), and beeswax. On the lesser islands the staple crops are sugar cane, vanilla, and cocoanuts. Mauritius also produces aloe fiber, which resembles sisal fiber. The principal commercial port in Madagascar is Tamatave, the outlet of the lofty interior plateau.

<sup>1</sup>Politically, the Madeira and Cape Verde islands, also St. Thomas and Principe, are Portuguese; the Canary Islands, Fernando Po, and Annobon are Spanish; Ascension and St. Helena are British.

<sup>2</sup>British, except Réunion, Madagascar, and the islands to the westward of Madagascar, which are French. Most of the whites are, however, of French descent and language. In Madagascar the Hovas, the ruling race, were mostly converted by English missionaries before the French conquest.

## XXVII—THE BALKAN PENINSULA AND ROUMANIA

**388. Surface and Climate of Europe.** Europe is merely a peninsula of Asia, and in both continents the principal mountains run from east to west (§128). An older mountain system (in part, a much eroded plateau) traverses the British Islands and the Scandinavian Peninsula. A younger mountain system, or series of systems, extends across the south, including the Pyrenees, Alps, Carpathians, and Caucasus mountains, which are continued still farther eastward by the Hindu Kush and Himálayan ranges. Between the older and the younger upland regions extends the great North European Plain, which rises but little above sea level. (Fig. 239.)

Adjacent to Europe lie three great inland seas—the Mediterranean, Black, and Baltic. The North Sea is also, in effect, inland; and there are numerous lesser gulfs and bays, separated by projections of the land. As a result, there is said to be no place in Europe a thousand miles from salt water.

Latitude alone would render the larger part of Europe frigid. Nearly all of it lies farther north than New York, and all but the Mediterranean peninsulas lies farther north than Minneapolis. The east and west trend of the mountains, however, sharply differentiates the climate of the Mediterranean region from that of the northern plain (§128); and at the same time it permits the moderating influence of the Atlantic to be borne far inland by the prevailing westerly winds. There are consequently three climatic regions. The Mediterranean is of the mild subtropical type, with winter rains (§52). The west European region, north of the Pyrenees and Alps, is never very hot nor very cold, but is usually very moist, with the heaviest rainfall in winter just as in Washington and British Columbia. The east European region, comprising chiefly Russia, is marked by greater extremes of heat and cold and is rather dry, with the most rainfall in



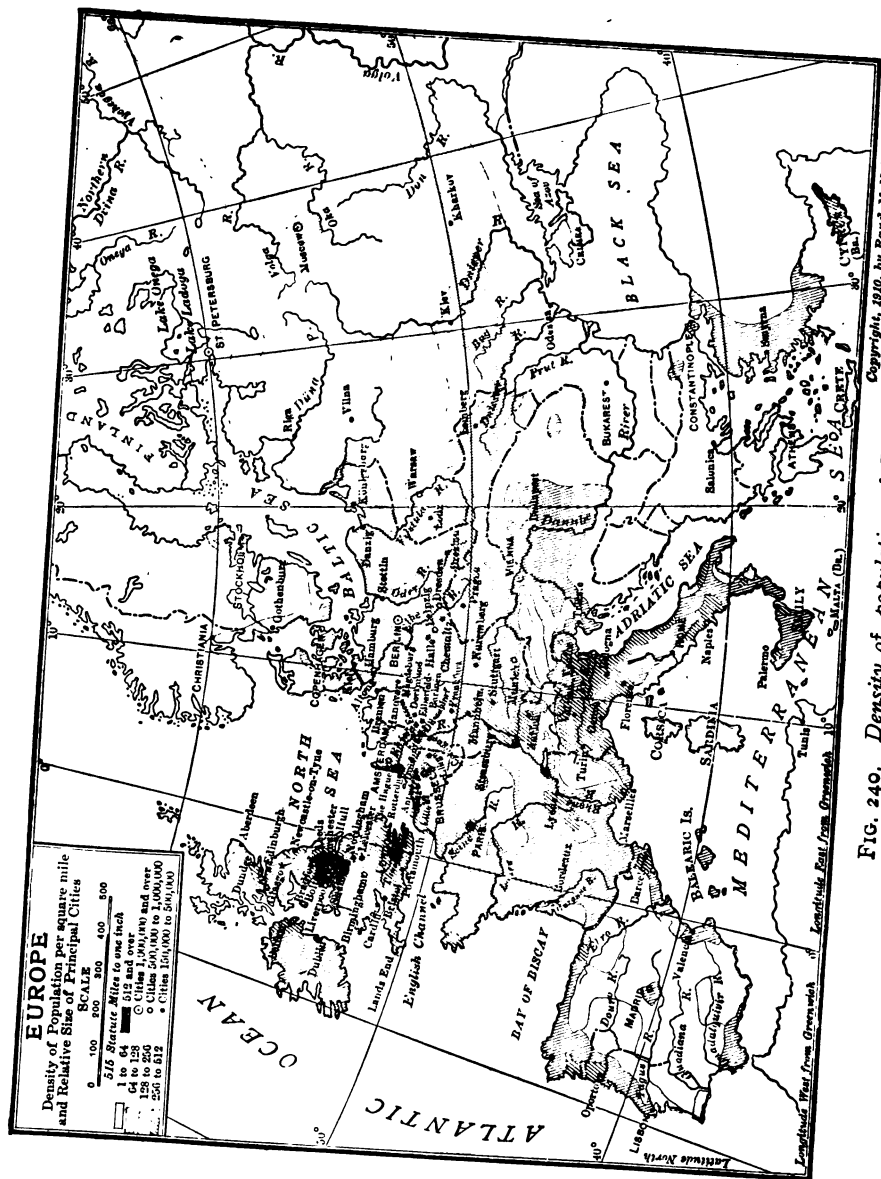
FIG. 238 *The British Isles.*





FIG. 239.





summer, resembling the Dakotas. North of the Alps, the climate thus varies more from west to east than from south to north. (Fig. 241.)

**389. Why Europe is Civilized.** Europe is the true fatherland of civilization. To it the younger nations in America, Australia, South Africa, and the islands of the sea look back as to their old home.

The elements of material civilization were, indeed, derived from the Orient; but the development of the arts that adorn

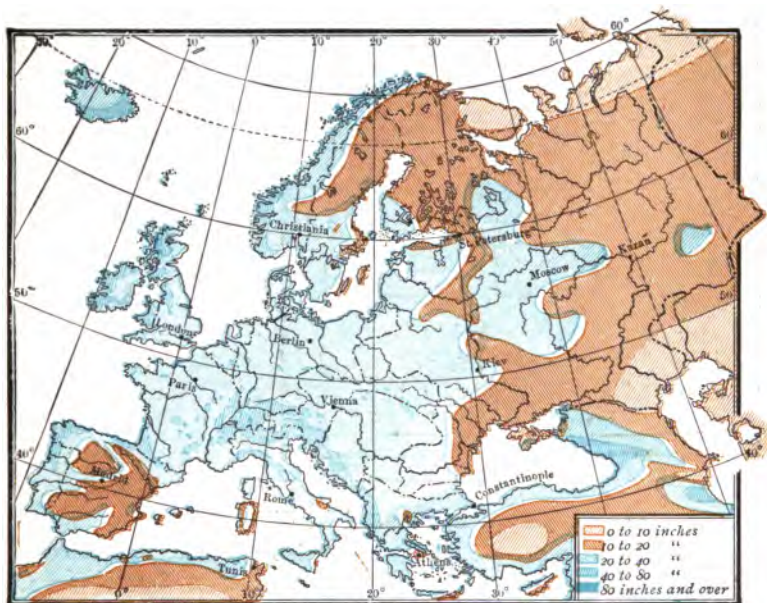


FIG. 241. *Rainfall of Europe.*

and the inward graces of character that ennoble human life took place on the soil of Europe. This it was that came to pass in ancient Greece and rendered it the fountain head of culture for the western world.

The rapid advance of Europe in civilization, outstripping lands like Egypt, Mesopotamia, India, and China that had a start of thousands of years, was largely a matter of

climate (which compelled the accumulation of resources for winter) and of surface features. It was in fact due in no



FIG. 242. *Balkan Peninsula and Roumania.*

small measure to the wealth of Europe in seas, gulfs, and peninsulas, which carry both the climatic and commercial influence of the ocean far inland. This was even more clearly the case in Greece (§35).

The civilization of Europe also owes much to race and religion (§57.) A Mongolian Europe would doubtless be in many respects another China, and a Mohammedan Europe but a larger Turkey, sunk in squalor and decay.

**390. The Peoples of Europe.** The diversity of the land is reflected in the people. Nowhere else are there so many civilized nations and cultivated languages in so small an area. The population is also very dense. Thus Europe, only a trifle larger than the United States and Alaska, contains twenty independent nations, besides six actual or virtual protectorates (Luxemburg, Liechtenstein, San Marino, Andorra, Monaco, Crete); in all, twenty-six states more or less sovereign. (Fig. 239.) Their combined population is in round numbers 400,000,000, practically the same as China.

Measured by language, most of the European peoples are

Aryan, like the ancient Persians and the northern Hindus. They fall into six groups. (Fig. 229.) In the south are the Latin nations—the Portuguese, Spaniards, French, Italians, and Roumanians—all speaking dialects derived from the tongue of ancient Rome. In the northwest around the North Sea are the Teutonic nations, Scandinavians, Germans, Dutch, Flemish (in northern Belgium), and English. In the east are the Slavic peoples, Russians, Poles, Bohemians, Servians, Bulgarians, and others. Also Aryan by speech, though belonging to neither of these groups, are the Greeks and Albanians in the Balkan Peninsula; the Celts in Ireland, Wales, Brittany, and the highlands of Scotland; finally the Lithuanians on the Baltic, now chiefly under Russian rule.

Outside the circle of Aryan peoples are the Basques in the Pyrenees, of unknown relationship; also the Turks, Hungarians, Tartars, Lapps, and Finns, all of Mongolian speech and Asiatic origin.

**391. Why the Balkan Peninsula is Undeveloped.** The Balkan Peninsula (Fig. 242) contains Greece, the cradle of European civilization; Macedonia (Turkey), the home of Alexander, who carried this civilization to the gates of India; and Constantinople, the Imperial City where it survived the dark and stormy night of the Middle Ages. Yet the Balkan Peninsula is to-day the most barbarous and commercially the least developed part of Europe.

One reason is that its valleys open toward the barbarous East. It is thus exposed to invasion from southern Russia and western Asia. By these routes came the Slavs and Turks, who between them destroyed the Eastern Empire.

Another reason is that the mountains render transportation difficult. Moreover, they separate the peninsula into distinct districts now occupied by different races, languages, and religions, whose constant strife render economic progress all but impossible.

Besides the Turks, who are largely outnumbered in European Turkey by Christians, the inhabitants of the Balkan Peninsula

comprise: (1) Greeks, living on all the coasts and islands in addition to Greece; (2) Albanians, in part Mohammedan, along the Adriatic; (3) Servians<sup>1</sup> in the west and Bulgarians<sup>2</sup> in the east, both Slavic peoples; (4) Roumanians (that is, Romans) in the mountains of northern Greece and Turkey, as well as in Roumania and Hungary.<sup>3</sup> The Christians are almost solidly Greek Catholic except along the Adriatic, where they are in part Roman Catholic.

The bond of union between the widely-sundered Greeks is now, as in ancient times, the sea; and Greek, far from being a "dead language," is next to French the principal commercial language of the eastern Mediterranean.

**392. The Agricultural Products of Greece.** Greece, like southern California, is almost rainless in summer, when the northeast trade winds begin farthest north. Irrigation is therefore needful for agriculture, especially toward the south and east. Greece is consequently in large part a pastoral country, raising sheep and goats. Mount Hymettos, however, is still famous for honey; and the mountain slopes, though now largely stripped of timber, and consequently of soil, bear patches of valonia oak, used for tanning. The island fisheries also yield excellent sponges.

The plains and valleys, though small, are fertile and have been in all ages the centers of population. Ancient Athens was embowered in olive groves which yielded her chief article of export, and olives are still important throughout Greece. Here, as in other Mediterranean countries, pasturage dries up in summer unless irrigated. Dairy products are consequently expensive, and olive oil is commonly used in place of butter. It likewise takes the place, to some extent, of meat in the diet.

<sup>1</sup>Inhabiting from the Balkans to the Adriatic, south of the Drave River—that is, a region several times the size of Servia.

<sup>2</sup>Named from a tribe of Finns who settled there and adopted the Slavic tongue.

<sup>3</sup>Thus showing that the eastern as well as the western provinces of the Roman Empire must have adopted the Latin tongue before the barbarian invasions, except where Greek prevailed. See Partsch, *Central Europe*, p. 128.

of the people. The main support of modern Greek commerce, however, is the "currant," a small seedless grape grown chiefly in the Patras district. In addition, southern Greece produces wine, figs, and raw silk; also in recent years low-grade "Turkish" tobacco. In central Greece the land formerly occupied by Lake Kopais, now drained, is planted with cotton. Thessaly, the dry bed of a great lake which finally secured an outlet through the famous Vale of Tempe, grows wheat, corn, and barley.

**393. Other Products of Greece.** The mineral resources of Greece are varied and more developed, because near the sea, than elsewhere in the Balkan Peninsula. The silver-lead deposits of Laurion, which built the Athenian navy, thereby founding the political power of ancient Athens, are still productive. Iron, manganese, zinc, and chrome are also mined. Naxos yields emery; Eubœa, magnesite; and Paros, the finest marble.

Coal, except for a little lignite, is lacking. Nevertheless Greece, like Switzerland, is making some headway in manufactures, largely by the use of water power. There is a considerable output of cotton and paper goods at Piræus, which aspires to be the Fall River of Greece.

Railways from Athens penetrate and circle the Peloponnesus (Morea), extending to Kalamata. Another line already built from Athens through Larissa (once the home of Achilles) will connect with the Salonica Railway, making Piræus a possible rival of Brindisi for the mail and passenger traffic with the Far East.

The trade of Greece largely centers at Piræus, the port of Athens, and at Patras. Both have profited from the Corinthian Canal (1893), which saves twenty hours, though many ships avoid it because narrow and beset by strong winds and currents. (Fig. 243.) Volos is the outlet of Thessaly, as Kalamata is of southern Greece. In the islands Hermoupolis or Syra, a free port with a splendid harbor, is an important coaling and fishing station. Corfu occupies a similar position in the Adriatic. For internal trade, annual fairs still play an



important part in Greece, the principal one occurring at Pharsalos (Fersala) in Thessaly.

**394. The Commerce of Greece.** The United States has direct steamship connection with Greece and is a large purchaser of the principal Grecian exports—currants and ores. Other countries supply most of the Grecian imports, which are mainly foodstuffs, raw cotton, and manufactured goods.



FIG. 243. *Vessel traversing the Corinthian Canal.*

**395. Resources of Turkey in Europe.** The Turks are still by preference pastoral, keeping sheep and goats on the hill pastures. Their flocks furnish important exports, but have largely destroyed the forests, as in Greece.

The rainfall brought by the west winds in winter is heavy on the Adriatic coast, and usually sufficient for crops (twenty

inches) throughout the country; but the rugged surface limits agriculture, in the main, to the wide plain east of the Maritsa and to the Vardar Valley, which formed the heart of ancient Macedonia. The soil there is worked in primitive fashion, chiefly by the Christian races, producing for export grapes (raisins), wheat, opium, silk, and tobacco. The Turkish islands (all Greek except in government) yield wine, olive oil, oranges, and carob pods.

There are valuable fisheries, especially in the Marmora Sea, and large mineral resources almost undeveloped. The gold and silver mines of Macedonia, which once furnished the means for the conquests of Philip and Alexander the Great, have not been reopened. There is, however, a small output of copper in the Rhodope Range, and asphaltum near Yanina (ancient Dodona). Antimony, manganese, and chromium are also exported to a limited extent from the Salonica district.

The export manufactures are chiefly carpets woven by hand, leather goods, and attar of roses.

**396. The Commerce of Turkey.** Turkey in Europe, as in Asia, exports chiefly raw materials, besides rugs and dried fruits; and imports mainly manufactured goods.

Constantinople, which has a splendid harbor on the Bosphorus, occupies a position of commanding importance, both strategic and commercial. The chain of lofty mountains stretching from the Atlantic eastward across Europe is broken only in two places—in France by the gap between the Pyrenees and the Alps, and at Constantinople by navigable water giving direct access to the Black Sea, and thus to the vast north European and north Asiatic plain. What this position would mean under decent government passes imagination. Constantinople, moreover, has one railway running along the coastal plain to the west which binds all European Turkey together, and another extending to the Danube by way of the Maritsa-Morava Pass (2,400 feet). This line of communication is the route of the Orient Express from Paris. (Fig. 239.)

Salonica, on a deep bay at the head of the Ægean Sea, is

connected with the Orient Express route by a railway through the Vardar Valley (1,750 feet summit elevation). This port is consequently the natural outlet of the Balkan Peninsula and Hungary in the direction of the Suez Canal.

Adrianople, at the head of navigation on the Maritsa, commands the valley leading up to the Šipka (Shipka) Pass across the Balkans. It is therefore a fortress as well as a market. In all ages the great "diagonal furrows" formed by the Vardar and Maritsa valleys have been the chief routes both of commerce and of war.

**397. Serbia and Montenegro.** Montenegro (Black Mountain) is nominally an independent principality, but it is subsidized by Russia and unconditionally devoted to her interests. The country consists almost entirely of mountain pastures, which support sheep and goats, with some cattle. It has, however, a few miles of seacoast on the Adriatic.

Servia was originally forested with oak, and the acorns fed immense herds of swine. This condition still exists in remote districts, and the forests there also furnish lumber for staves. In the main, however, Servia is now a country of upland pastures, supporting sheep and cattle. Agriculture has made some progress in the valleys, being carried on in crude fashion by peasant proprietors. All the common grains are grown, besides plums for prunes and brandy. The mountains are said to abound in metals, and there is a small output of coal. Manufactures are mostly household industries carried on by hand as in western Europe during the Middle Ages.

**398. Bulgaria.** Bulgaria comprises the two slopes of the Balkan Mountains (which have ever formed the Bulgarian stronghold in times of trouble) together with the adjacent valleys.

The uplands are largely under natural grass, as in Servia, and animal products are important exports. The first place, however, is held by grain, chiefly wheat, grown in the broad Danube Valley. The southern slope of the Balkans, which serve like the Alps as a climatic boundary, produces grapes,

tobacco, silk, rice in the Maritsa Valley, and roses around Šipka or "Wild Rose" Pass for the manufacture of attar of roses. Here, as in Serbia, minerals are abundant, though mostly unworked, except for a small output of coal. The principal factory industry (and that but little developed) is the weaving of woolen goods by water power along the foot of the Balkans.

**399. Roumania.** Roumania is an independent kingdom, the strongest of the states which have arisen on the ruins of Turkey. It has, however, the misfortune to lie, like Bulgaria, in the path of Russia's advance on Constantinople.

Roumania, embracing the northern part of the Danube Valley, together with the eastern slope of the Carpathians, is one of the granaries of Europe. The principal crops are corn, wheat and other small grains, besides flax and colza seeds for oil. In the export of corn Roumania ranks next to the United States. (Figs. 190 and 277.) Grapes and plums also occupy some land. The region east of the Danube is a pastoral plateau, supporting sheep and cattle. The Carpathians furnish timber, also great quantities of salt and petroleum. The oil wells are largely run by water power, and pipe lines extend to the Black Sea at Kustenji (Constanta). Manufactures comprise chiefly flour and lumber.

**400. The Commerce of the Danube States.** Serbia, Bulgaria, and Roumania are commercially much alike. They all export chiefly pastoral and agricultural products, besides timber; Roumania also exports petroleum. They thus compete in European markets with American farm products. On the other hand, they import mainly textile and metal manufactures, trading for the most part with Austria-Hungary and Germany.

The great highway of commerce is the Danube, though it is icebound for two months. As far as the Iron Gate, where the river has cut through the Carpathians and a canal has been built around the rapids, the Danube is under the control of an International Commission.

The trunk line railway from Paris, crossing the river at Belgrade, the commercial center of Servia, follows the Morava Valley to Nish, where it forks to Salonica and Constantinople. The eastern or Constantinople line traverses the plateau on which Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, stands at the focus of mountain valleys. The only railway over the Balkans also passes through Sofia.<sup>1</sup> Bukarest, the capital of Roumania, is a natural railway center in the middle of a wide plain.

The principal river ports are Rushchuk, connected also by rail with the sea, and Brăila; the larger seagoing vessels, however, stop at Galatz. The Black Sea ports are poorly sheltered by nature. Varna is an exposed anchorage; Burgas has (since 1903) an artificial harbor, like Kustenji (Constanta). Kustenji, where Trajan's wall from the Danube formerly reached the sea, has become of European importance since the river was bridged to give railway connection with western Europe. The Germans in particular are making it a stepping stone for their expected commercial conquest of the Levant.

<sup>1</sup>Following the gorges of the Isker and Struma, but not yet completed to Salonica. The Isker is the only river piercing the Balkans, though a railroad may eventually be laid over the Šipka Pass (4,375 feet), in spite of the abrupt slope on the south.

## XXVIII—OTHER MEDITERRANEAN PENINSULAS

**401. Italy.** Venice is farther north than Minneapolis, and Rome is in the latitude of Chicago. The startling difference in climate is due largely to the sheltering wall of the Alps along the north of Italy. (§128, Fig. 244.)

The Po Valley, once an arm of the sea, is fertile and well watered. Peninsular Italy, on the other hand, has thin and stony soil except in a few small plains, and it lies in the zone of summer drought (§52).

A similar difference exists in the people. The north Italian barely understands the speech of the south Italian, and is much the better educated. Such unequal yokefellows have created many difficulties since the union of Italy (1871).

**402. Forest and Animal Products in Italy.** "Man traverses the earth and a desert results." This hard saying, referring to the effects of deforestation, is nowhere better illustrated than in Italy, where the forests of Roman days are now represented chiefly by "macchie"—scattered shrubs of a semi-desert character. The cork oak, however, is still found in Sardinia, also sumac and the licorice plant in the south, while chestnut plantations are widely distributed at moderate elevations. Boiled chestnuts are a staple food.

Goats graze in the mountains; sheep on the dry plateaus, especially in Apulia; cattle in the moister plains west of the Apennines, like the Roman campagna, and on the rich irrigated meadows of the Po. Imported cattle are fattened there, and Parmesan cheese is famous. Even more important are poultry and eggs for northern markets.

**403. Crop Products in Italy.** The north is the more prosperous because considerable districts are irrigated by unfailing Alpine streams. The food crops are wheat or barley in winter, corn in summer, rice on the irrigable lowlands, and beans as a substitute for meat. The staple food of the

common people is polenta, a sort of cornmeal mush. The industrial products are raw silk, chiefly from the Po basin, flax around Cremona, and hemp around Bologna; also, in recent years, sugar beets. Nowhere has the beet-sugar industry grown more rapidly, since imported sugar has been heavily taxed.



FIG. 244. Italy.

South of the Apennines, where the climate is subtropical, the commercial products are chiefly wine and olive oil, of which Italy is the largest producer; south of Naples and in Sicily, also "English" walnuts, figs, almonds, citrons, oranges, and lemons. Chick-peas and wheat are also grown in southern

Italy, especially durum or macaroni wheat, though a crooked stick still commonly serves for a plow as in Vergil's day.

**404. Other Resources of Italy.** The Italian fisheries are especially rich between the islands and the mainland. They yield sardines and anchovies which are both tinned in oil, besides tunny and coral, the latter used in ornaments.

Most of Italy is of recent geological age and poor in minerals; but the islands of Sardinia and Elba, with parts of the mainland, are fragments of a very ancient land (Tyrrhenia) now mostly sunk beneath the sea, which are rich in ores of nearly all the metals, especially zinc, lead, and iron. In addition there are large sulphur deposits in Sicily, marble at Carrara, borax in Tuscany, besides small deposits of petroleum and lignite in the Apennines. Sicily furnishes the larger part of the world's sulphur. (Fig. 90.)

**495. Manufactures of Italy.** The lack of abundant coal has limited manufactures in the main to artistic hand work: but this lack is now being made good in part by the Alpine streams, which are increasingly used to generate electricity. The principal use of power machinery is in the textile industry. The materials used are chiefly silk at Milan, cotton at Genoa, wool at Turin and at Biella in the Alps. Iron is worked to some extent at Terni, near lignite beds, and at Savona and Elba, which burn imported coal. Other manufactures are macaroni from hard wheat, and soap from the poorer grades of olive oil. Tobacco and salt are government monopolies.

Technical schools have been established in many districts, with an advanced school of commerce at Venice to hasten the industrial revolution. As yet, however, it is impossible, owing to the rapid increase of population in Italy, and the limited natural resources, to fill the multitude of hungry mouths; consequently hundreds of thousands of Italians emigrate every year. Their remittances to friends at home are assuredly one of the chief resources of Italy. Southern Italy, indeed, largely lives on America.



**406. Transportation Routes and Trade Centers of Italy.** Like Greece, though less completely, Italy is built in compartments separated by mountains and facing the sea; but, unlike Greece, Italy lacks natural harbors, except near the ends of the peninsula where the mountains descend abruptly to deep water.

By virtue of its position, Italy is the heart of the Mediterranean world. It has, moreover, been commercially regenerated by the Suez Canal (1869), which again sent the main current of oriental trade through the Mediterranean; and by the Alpine tunnels,<sup>1</sup> which have in effect removed the commercial barrier of the Alps. In fact, the bulk of Italian commerce now goes by rail across the land frontiers.

The Po system, supplemented by canals, is navigable to Valenza and the Italian Alpine lakes. Railways radiating from Milan, the greatest industrial center, extend along both coasts, and are connected by several transverse lines across the Apennines. The railways are fed in part by automobile lines running on highways built by the Cæsars.

Genoa, the chief port of Italy,<sup>2</sup> is also through the Alpine tunnels the Mediterranean outlet of Switzerland and the upper Rhine Valley. In fact, it is a rival of Marseilles for the commerce of central Europe. (Fig. 239.) Leghorn (Livorno), on an artificial harbor, is the port of Florence and indeed, of all central Italy;<sup>3</sup> while Naples, on a beautiful bay under the

<sup>1</sup>The Alpine railways are as follows:

CONNECTING	OPENED	PASS USED	LENGTH MAIN TUNNEL	ELEVATION OF RAILWAY
Venice-Vienna	1854	Semmering		2,970 ft.
Venice-Munich	1867	Brenner		4,470 ft.
Turin-Lyons	1871	Mt. Cenis	7.6 mi.	4,380 ft.
Milan-Zürich	1882	St. Gothard	9.3 mi.	3,785 ft.
Milan-Geneva	1906	Simplon	12.3 mi.	2,313 ft.
Trieste-Salzburg	1907	Hohe Tauern	5.3 mi.	3,999 ft.

Italy is also connected along the coastal plain with Marseilles, and with Trieste.

<sup>2</sup>Opposite the Bocchetta Pass (2,550 feet) over the Apennines.

<sup>3</sup>By way of the railways from Bologna and Faenza.

shadow of Vesuvius, is the port of the fertile Campanian plain. Venice is built on islands in a landlocked lagoon which is now dredged for modern vessels and equipped with modern docks and elevators; and it is again after many days the outlet toward the Levant of northern Italy. It is also an important outlet of the upper Danube Valley over the Brenner Pass, though Genoa and Trieste now hold most of the trans-Alpine trade on which Venice once grew rich. Brindisi is the mail and passenger port of London, Paris, and Berlin for the Levant, India, and the Far East. In Sicily,

	27%	12%	8%	7%	5%		41%
<i>Exports</i> .....	Raw silk and silk waste 99 million dollars	Textiles 43	Animals and animal products 27	Fruits 24	Olive oil and wine 19		All others 147
	18%	16%	12%	9%	9%	7% 3%	26%
<i>Imports</i> .....	United Kingdom 87 million dollars	Germany 77	United States 60	France 47	Austria 44	Russia 37 Belgium 15	All others 123

Statesman's Year Book, 1908

FIG. 245. *The commerce of Italy. Totals in 1908 (millions of dollars): exports, 359; imports, 495.*

the meeting place of nations, which has been held in turn by all the rulers of the Mediterranean, the principal modern ports are Palermo (Greek Panormus) and Messina, the latter commanding the strait where the ancients fabled that Scylla and Charybdis lay in wait for the unwary mariner. Though often destroyed by earthquakes, Messina has been as often rebuilt.

**407. Commerce and Colonies of Italy.** The exports of Italy comprise chiefly raw silk (by far the largest item), eggs, fruit, and other agricultural products, besides some cotton and silk manufactures. The imports are more varied, including raw cotton and other raw materials, coal, foodstuffs, and nearly all kinds of manufactures. (Fig. 245.)

From these facts it is evident that Italy, while making progress in manufactures, is still predominantly agricultural.

Italy has, in addition to the Italian islands (except Corsica), two stretches of arid coast lands in the Horn of Africa with the good port of Massaua, and a practical protectorate over San Marino, a queer little republic in the eastern Apennines.

**408. The Iberian Peninsula.** "Africa begins at the Pyrenees." This saying of the French applies in a measure both to the people and the country.

The original inhabitants resembled the Berbers of North Africa, and there is also a strong infusion of Moorish blood.

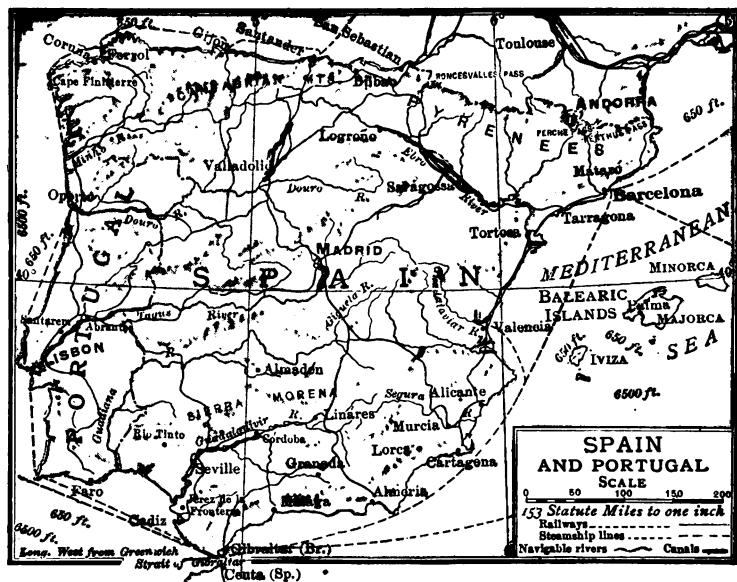


Fig. 246. The Iberian Peninsula.

Both Portuguese and Spaniards, except the Basques in the Pyrenees, now speak dialects derived from Latin.

The surface of the peninsula (Fig. 246) resembles Africa in that it consists for the most part of a lofty table-land (over 3,000 feet), traversed by mountain ranges which drain the winds of moisture. The coast line is also similar to that of Africa, in that it lacks deep indentations. The climate on the

plateau is one of great extremes, and the summers are almost rainless, especially in the southern half of the peninsula. The northern and western coasts are the best watered, and therefore the most thickly peopled.

**409. Forest and Animal Products in Spain and Portugal.** The forests have mostly disappeared, under the combined attack of sheep, goats, and charcoal burners. Oak and chestnut groves are, however, still found in the north, besides cork oak and carob trees on the southern mountains. Cork is an article of export.

The central plateau is pastoral rather than agricultural, having for the most part a rainfall of between ten and twenty inches. It is largely a range country for flocks of sheep, which migrate to the mountains in summer and to the lower lands in winter. Spain was long the home of the merino breed, noted for fine wool. The moister provinces of the northwest also pasture cattle; the oak and chestnut forests feed swine; parts of the south raise fine horses of Arab breed; and the mountains everywhere support goats, asses, and mules, which greatly outnumber horses. In recent years dairy products, poultry, and eggs have become commercial products in northern Spain.

**410. Crop Products of Spain and Portugal.** Agriculture is practically confined to a strip along the shore, and the *vegas* or irrigated plains of the Tagus, Ebro, and Guadalquivir. This agricultural belt is widest in the northwest, where temperate crops are grown, especially wheat and barley, besides chick-peas, onions, and sugar beets. Since the loss of Cuba, Spain has developed her beet-sugar industry sufficiently to meet the home demand. Other foodstuffs, however, are largely imported.

The principal agricultural exports are wine, especially from Portugal and southern Spain, and southern fruits, largely from the irrigated *huertas* or gardens between Malaga and Valencia. The Spanish Peninsula ranks next to Italy in its crop of olives, which are perhaps most abundant about

Seville. It likewise exports almonds, grown on sheltered hillsides, raisins and "Malaga" grapes from Almeria, and oranges from Valencia. Another export crop is saffron, a dye stuff used in French silk mills.

Similar to the Mediterranean coast in climate and products are the Balearic and Canary islands, which are considered part of Spain; and the Madeira and Azores islands, which are considered part of Portugal.

**411. Other Products of Spain and Portugal.** The fisheries yield the usual Mediterranean varieties—sardine, anchovy, tunny—besides lobsters on the rocky northern coast.

The mines of Spain equipped the army of Hannibal which all but destroyed Rome; and the Spanish Peninsula is still the richest mineral region in Europe, especially in the great industrial metals. Iron ore of rare purity is abundant, especially near the northern coast. Copper is extensively mined at Rio Tinto, silver-lead at Lináres, zinc in the northwest, mercury at Almadén. There are in addition large deposits of salt and sulphur; and the coal fields exceed in area those of France, Germany, and Austria-Hungary. Though located near iron ore, they are not much worked.

The manufactures of Spain comprise, aside from purely local industries, chiefly tobacco goods (a government monopoly) at Seville; iron and glass along the northern coast; and textiles, leather, and paper at Barcelona, the principal industrial city in Spain. The people of Barcelona, speaking a language (Catalan) more French than Spanish, are very different from the haughty and indolent Castilian of the plateau, or the guitar-twanging Andalusian of the south; and they are far more redoubtable adversaries in the world of to-day.

In Portugal some cotton and other goods for the colonies are manufactured with imported coal, chiefly at Lisbon.

**412. Trade Routes and Centers of the Iberian Peninsula.** The plateau, rising abruptly near the sea, interrupts river

navigation<sup>1</sup> and renders railroads very costly to build and operate. Moreover, the Pyrenees are still uncrossed by rail,<sup>2</sup> and the lines passing the ends of the Pyrenees differ in gauge from the French, thus forcing both passengers and goods to change cars at the frontier. The railways naturally converge at Madrid in the center of the plateau.

Since the loss of her American colonies, Spain faces commercially toward the Mediterranean, as Portugal does toward the Atlantic. The principal commercial ports are Barcelona on the Mediterranean, having a deep harbor commanding the broad Ebro Valley; Lisbon in the west, at the mouth of the Tagus; and Bilbao in the north, the leading iron port. Oporto also ships much wine (hence *port* wine) and Cartagena handles Spanish trade with Africa.<sup>3</sup>

The Iberian Peninsula, jutting far into the Atlantic, is the final point of departure for many vessels bound to South Africa, South America, or the West Indies. Lisbon is thus in a measure the passenger and mail port of Paris, Berlin, and Vienna for the New World.

**413. Commerce and Colonies of Spain and Portugal.** As a result of the character of the country, the leading items of export from Portugal are wine and cork; while in the case of Spain, they are minerals, wine, and cork. (Fig. 247.) In both, the imports comprise chiefly grain and manufactures.

Spain established the first empire on which the sun never set; but this empire has now shrunk to a few islands and pieces of coast in West Africa. The loss of the colonies, however, has proved a blessing in disguise, causing Spaniards to invest their money at home and thus develop the country.

<sup>1</sup>Steam navigation is possible only to Santarem on the Tagus, Seville on the Guadalquivir, Tortosa on the Ebro (by the aid of canals); small boats, however, reach Abrantes, Córdoba, and Logroño.

<sup>2</sup>Though offering lower passes than the Alps, as the famous pass of Roncesvalles (3,960 feet); also Perche (5,282 feet); Perthuis (2,392 feet)—the last two conveniently placed for Barcelona. Spain and France have agreed to tunnel the Pyrenees at three points.

<sup>3</sup>Other ports are Santander and Gijon, the port of the chief coal district, in the north; Cadiz, the outlet of the Guadalquivir Valley, in the south; Malaga, Almeria, and Valencia on the Mediterranean.

Andorra, a little republic in the Pyrenees dating back to Charlemagne, is under the joint protection of a Spanish bishop and of France.

Portugal retains, besides fragments of her empire in India and the Far East, rich territories on both coasts of Africa. The Portuguese colonies are now in the main self-supporting.

36%	34%	6%	5%	19%
Minerals 56 million dollars	Food and beverages 52	Animal prod. of	Cotton goods	All others 30

Data from U. S. Consular Reports, Ann., No. 7

FIG. 247. *Exports of Spain. Total in 1907: 155 million dollars, largely to Great Britain (30%) and France.*

It is understood that France has an option on the Spanish, and England on the Portuguese, colonies, in case they shall be for sale.

**414. British Possessions in the Mediterranean.** Malta and two adjacent islands, peopled by a mixed Arab-Italian race, grow early vegetables and fruit for the London market. Having a fine harbor, situated on the strait between Sicily and Africa, Malta is also a great British coaling and naval station, as well as a port of call for merchant vessels.

To the ancients, Ceuta and Gibraltar were known as the Pillars of Hercules. The towering rock of Gibraltar, connected with the mainland only by a sand bank and commanding the entrance to the Mediterranean, is now the strongest fortress in the world. Upon it depends, in no small measure, the continuance of the British Empire in India. Because of its position, Gibraltar is likewise important as a coaling station and port of call on the Mediterranean route.

## XXIX—AUSTRIA-HUNGARY AND SWITZERLAND

**415. Austria-Hungary.** Austria-Hungary (Fig. 248) is a dual monarchy, pieced together by war and the renowned skill of the Hapsburgs in matchmaking. The only natural connecting link is the Danube, which drains three-fourths of the country.

Austria and Hungary have a common ruler, and a Customs Union whenever they can agree, but separate governments. Each state, moreover, contains hostile races whose mutual hatreds react most unfavorably on industry and commerce. Any ruler who aspires to be really popular has need to learn some dozen languages.<sup>1</sup> German is, however, the usual language of business in most parts of the country.

**416. Products of the Soil in Austria-Hungary.** Forests still cover perhaps a third of the country, including the mountains, except along the Adriatic; and there is some export of timber. (Fig. 259.)

The *pusztas* or prairies of Hungary, connecting with the steppes of Russia and of Asia, formed the highway by which various nomadic peoples entered the country, the last being the Magyars or Hungarians (A. D. 898). These *pusztas* are still largely given over to pastoral life, as are also the mountains. Horses are extensively raised in Hungary, sheep on the Bohemian Plateau, dairy cattle in the Alps, swine in the oak forests of Transylvania, and goats along the Adriatic. The poultry industry is also very important in Bohemia, and bees are kept in many districts.

Tillage of the soil, however, occupies the larger part of the people, especially in Hungary; and the railways, by furnishing a market for grain, cause the plow to encroach year by year

<sup>1</sup>Besides Germans and Hungarians (Magyars) there are Italians in the south, Roumanians in the east, and many kinds of Slavs—Bohemians, Moravians, Poles, Ruthenians, Slovaks, Slovenes, Croatians, and Servians, besides others of less note.



upon the grasslands. The leading field crops are wheat and corn in the plains of Hungary; rye, oats, and potatoes on the highlands, especially in Austria, which has a heavier rainfall. Temperate fruits are abundant in the north and southern fruits on the Mediterranean slope. The south-facing hills in Hungary also yield the noted Tokay wine grape. The other industrial products are raw silk in southern Tyrol; barley, hops, and sugar beets on the coal fields, and flax on the higher plateau of Bohemia; hemp and tobacco in Hungary. Flax



FIG. 248. *Austria-Hungary.*

and hemp are losing ground before Russian competition, but Hungary has the largest tobacco crop in Europe. (Fig. 83.)

**417. Fisheries and Minerals of Austria-Hungary.** The thousand miles of Adriatic seacoast, indented and fringed with islands, support a fishing population. These Adriatic seamen, bred to the sea almost from infancy, whose ancestors manned the Roman navy, are among the best in the world.

There are three mineral districts: the Alps, Bohemia, and the Carpathians. Their metallic wealth rivals that of Spain, including iron especially at Eisenerz (Iron Ore), lead at Bleiberg (Lead Mount), and mercury at Idria, besides some silver and zinc. Other mineral resources are graphite at Budweis (Fig. 224), salt near Salzburg (Saltville) and Cracow, petroleum around Lemberg on the northern slope of the Carpathians, lignite widely distributed, and true coal in the north—Bohemia, Moravia, Galicia.

**418. Manufactures of Austria-Hungary.** To journey from Belgrade to the frontier of Germany is to survey several past centuries coexisting at the present time. Hungary manufactures little except flour, for which the dry climate is very favorable. The preparation and sale of tobacco are reserved to the government. From Vienna north and west, on the other hand, is a thriving manufacturing district. The leading industries embrace lumber and wood pulp along the rivers; furniture and leather goods, especially gloves and shoes, in Vienna and other cities where labor is plentiful; fine steel wares at Graz and Steyr near the iron ore beds; heavier iron and steel goods near the coal fields; glass at Eger and porcelain at Karlsbad, where the Bohemian forest originally supplied fuel; brewing and sugar refining at Pilsen and Prague, also near the coal fields; finally, linen, woollen, cotton, and silk textiles along the southern slope of the Erzgebirge, especially around Reichenberg.

This localization of the textile industry was due at first to local supplies of flax and wool, together with water power and a moist climate. It has increased through the attraction exercised by skilled labor on employers seeking a new location, and the proximity of coal. Linen goods and, to a lesser extent, other textiles are still woven in the homes of the people along the banks of the rapid mountain streams.

In the production of pig iron and steel, Austria-Hungary is at a disadvantage, because coal and iron are not found close together. (Fig. 268.)

To further trade interests there is a complete system of industrial and commercial schools, with a fine commercial museum at Vienna.

419. **Commerce of Austria-Hungary.** Austria exports manufactures toward the east; Hungary exports agricultural

17%	16%	13%	9%	7%	6%	4%	28%
Fuel 76 million dollars	Textiles 74	Animal products 62	Sugar 40	Metal m't'g 31	Grain 30	Glass and pottery, 13	All others 132

Data from Consular Rep't., Ann., No. 19

FIG. 249. *Exports of Austria-Hungary. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 464; imports, 461, largely foodstuffs and raw materials for Austria, manufactures for Hungary. Commerce is mostly with adjacent countries.*

products toward the west. (Fig. 249.) A commercial treaty with foreign countries which benefits the one therefore injures the other. Moreover, Hungary aims to restrict Austrian commerce in order to develop her own manufactures. Racial antagonism is thus reinforced by a deep-seated conflict of economic interests.

The great highways of commerce are the Danube, connected by a shallow canal with the Rhine, and the Elbe-Moldau rivers, navigable for large vessels to Aussig and for small craft to Prague. Canals also connect and shorten the rivers flowing through the Hungarian plain. Owing largely to these water ways, the Adriatic ports handle only about one-third of the foreign trade. American goods frequently reach Vienna through Hamburg.

The main railways radiate from Budapest, Prague, and Vienna, at the center of the principal plains, to the gaps and passes in the inclosing rim of mountains.

Vienna stands near the foot of difficult rapids, where the Danube comes nearest the Adriatic. It is the crossroads of the ancient trade routes, now followed by railways, connecting the North Sea with the Black Sea,<sup>1</sup> and the Baltic with the

<sup>1</sup>Along the Rhine and Danube; also along the Elbe, Danube, and Morava to Constantinople.

Adriatic.<sup>1</sup> Another trade route has been opened by the Arlberg Tunnel,<sup>2</sup> between valleys tributary to the Danube and the Rhine, which forms the eastern gateway to Switzerland and therefore to central and southern France. (Fig. 248.)

Trieste, on a small artificial harbor, is, by virtue of its position at the head of the Adriatic, the successor of Venice. Fiume is a rival port fostered by Hungary as an outlet for Hungarian wheat. The mountains descend very abruptly to the Adriatic, imposing heavy expenses on the railways which connect with Vienna, Budapest,<sup>3</sup> and Agram. A new Alpine tunnel under the Tauern has, however, opened an easy road from Trieste to southern Germany. Farther south on the Adriatic are the excellent ports of Ragusa and Cattaro, now reached by a branch of the Hungarian railway system.<sup>4</sup>

**420. Possessions of Austria-Hungary.** Austria-Hungary has administered (since 1878) and finally annexed (1908) Bosnia and Herzegovina, which were formerly Turkish. The ruling class there is still Mohammedan, being descended from Christian renegades who changed their religion after the Turkish conquest to save their estates. The exports are chiefly lumber, animal products, and plums. By the acquisition of these provinces, Austria has advanced more than half way to Salonica, and is driven by commercial necessity to become what her name (*Oesterreich*) implies—the Empire of the East.

Liechtenstein is a purely agricultural principality lying between Austria and Switzerland. It is included in the Austro-Hungarian Customs Union and administered from Vienna, though nominally independent.

<sup>1</sup>Through the Moravian Gate (950 feet) and Semmering Tunnel (elevation 2,970 feet). Railways also reach Italy by the Enns-Brenner (4,470 feet) and the Pontebba routes. The new railway under the Tauern crosses the divide at 3,999 feet elevation.

<sup>2</sup>Elevation 4,300 feet, length 6.37 miles.

<sup>3</sup>Over the Adelsberg Pass.

<sup>4</sup>Following the Narenta Gorge. The Bay of Gravosa, near Ragusa, is likely to become the principal commercial port on the Dalmatian coast. A railway is also projected through the Drina Valley toward Salonica in order to have a line independent of Serbia; but Russia has entered (1908) emphatic objections to its construction.

**421. Switzerland.** Two voices Freedom hath:

*"One is of the sea,  
One of the mountains; each a mighty Voice."—Wordsworth.*

The words of the poet are nowhere more strikingly illustrated than in republican Switzerland, divided in language (German, French, Italian) and in religion, but fused into one nation by the power of the mountains. From a confederacy of three states or cantons (1291) it has grown to twenty-two, forming without doubt the best governed republic in the world.

As respects surface, Switzerland consists of the Alps in the southeast, the Jura ridges in the northwest, and between these two uplands a plateau of moderate elevation (1,500 feet) extending from Lake of Geneva to Lake of Constance. (Fig. 250.) This plateau contains most of the population and all of the important cities.

**422. Natural Resources of Switzerland.** The forests are largely cut away, causing avalanches and destructive erosion

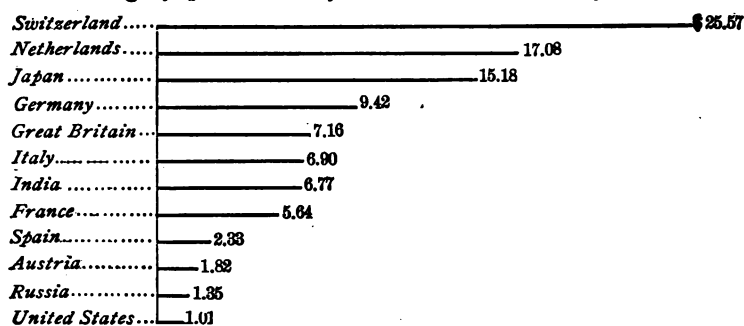


FIG. 250. *Switzerland.*

of the soil, besides the necessity of importing lumber. In recent years, however, serious attempts have been made to reforest the denuded slopes.

Between the timber line and the snow line (6,000–9,000 feet) is the zone of summer pastures, where the herds are driven upward as summer advances and downward as fall draws near. In winter they are fed on hay and fodder grown in the valleys. The country is thus pastoral rather than agricultural. Cheese, condensed milk, and chocolate, in which milk is one ingredient, are consequently very important exports. The railways, by furnishing a market for dairy products, have immensely increased the value of these mountain pastures.

The unproductive heights above the snow line have also become highly profitable by reason of the scenery. Switzer-



Data from U. S. Consular Repts., Sept., 1906

FIG. 251. Exports of cotton goods per spindle. The figures indicate the relation between the production and the export of cotton goods, not the relative amount of cotton goods manufactured. (Compare Fig. 279.)

land is "the playground of Europe." Some three million visitors are registered there annually, supporting over 1,800 hotels and leaving many millions of dollars in the country. This source of income largely explains the continued excess of Swiss imports over the exports.

Below 2,500 feet the soil is generally cultivated, though much food must be imported. A considerable acreage is under fruits, as well as grains, and bee keeping is consequently important.

Switzerland is poor in minerals, producing only a little asphaltum, salt, iron, and a very little coal. The scarcity of

coal is a desperately serious matter, but it is in part offset by the abundance of water power, which the lakes and glaciers maintain at all seasons.

**423. Manufactures of Switzerland.** For centuries the Swiss were the most valued mercenary troops in Europe, earning thus the livelihood which their mountain home denied them. The Swiss now emigrate to some extent as artisans, but for the most part they are supported at home by manufactures.

The poverty of the people early drove them to house industries and these are now receiving new life from electricity which can be readily distributed to the homes of the workers. Switzerland has thus largely escaped the hideous factory towns and crowded tenement-house districts which disfigure other manufacturing countries. Notable hand manufactures are straw plaiting in the Italian districts, and wood carving in the remote mountain villages.

Swiss manufactures in general demand little raw material but much skilled labor, and have in consequence a large value with small bulk. This explains how they can be marketed in every corner of the earth. The most important are fine cotton goods (Fig. 251) around Zürich, especially trimmings and machine embroideries; silk ribbons at Basel; watches and clocks, now made by machinery, in the barren Jura; leather goods, especially shoes, at Geneva; finally, chemical and metal industries in the north, which is more accessible to coal and iron from abroad. Thus aniline dyes are a specialty at Basel, aluminum at Schaffhausen, and fine machinery in the Zürich district.

The prosperity of manufactures in Switzerland is an example of what man can accomplish with but slight aid from nature. It is due partly to water power, but quite as much to the people who have supplemented by intelligence, energy, and thrift the slender gifts of nature. Thus they have established a splendid system of industrial and commercial education, culminating in the great Federal Polytechnicum at Zürich and seven higher Schools of Commerce.

**424. The Commerce of Switzerland.** Switzerland is as Dubois tersely says, "badly endowed but well situated." Four of the principal countries of Europe corner on the Alps, each with a great river flowing from this common center. These river valleys form natural trade routes.

Switzerland, however, lacks seacoast and large navigable rivers; and it has no natural exits except by the Rhone and Rhine gorges, by ferry across Lake of Constance, or by difficult mountain passes. Immense labor in building highways, bridges, railways, and tunnels has, therefore, been necessary. Nevertheless, in proportion to its size, Switzerland now ranks near the top in railway mileage (Fig. 289), and next to Sweden and the United States in its telephone system.

Since prehistoric days, when the lakes were fringed with villages built on piles, the Swiss lakes have been the active centers of Swiss life. Geneva, on the lake of the same name, near the gap between the Jura and the Alps, with railways down the Rhone Valley to Marseilles and into Italy by the Mont Cenis and Simplon tunnels, is the natural commercial center of the south. Basel in like manner commands the Rhine Valley and the Belfort Gap toward Paris. Finally Zürich, the metropolis, stands where the Berlin-Genoa line through the St. Gothard Tunnel crosses the Paris-Vienna line through the Belfort Gap, the Arlberg Tunnel, and the Engadine Valley.<sup>1</sup>

21%	21%	12%	8%	6%	4%	3%	25%
Silk manufactures 47 million dollars	Cotton manufactures 47	Watches 28	Dairy prod. 18	Cars etc. 14	Steel 10	Wool 3	All others 58

Data from U. S. Consular Repts., Ann., No. 18

FIG. 252. *Exports of Switzerland. Total in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 229, largely to Germany, Great Britain, and France; imports, 335, chiefly foodstuffs and raw materials.*

In view of its industries, Switzerland naturally exports chiefly textiles and other manufactures, besides dairy products, but imports foodstuffs and raw materials. (Fig. 252.)

<sup>1</sup>The Albula Tunnel (4.3 miles) has opened (1903) another gateway between tributaries of the upper Rhine and upper Danube (Engadine Valley).



### XXX—FRANCE

**425. The French Nation.** The French people are generally conceded to be among the most patriotic and united in Europe. They have an artistic instinct which imparts beauty to whatever they touch, and great thrift which enables them to prosper in spite of a huge standing army, a public debt without parallel, and enormous taxes. But they are prone to invest their money in government bonds rather than industrial enterprises, and to educate their children for government positions rather than for independent careers. Trade, moreover, apparently stands in something of the same ill repute as before the Revolution, when nobles were forbidden to engage in it.

**426. Surface and Climate of France.** France (Fig. 253), only a third larger than California, has almost as great a variety of soil and climate as the whole United States.

The south and east are rugged; the northwestern half lies in the great European plain. A tongue of lowland also penetrates between the uplands of Brittany and the Central Plateau, as far as the Pyrenees. South of Bordeaux this lowland has been invaded by the devastating march of sand dunes, driven by the west wind; but these have finally been checked by planted forests.

Paris is farther north than Duluth, and all France farther north than Chicago; but France, lying open to the west winds from the Atlantic, has a mild, moist climate like our own Pacific coast from San Francisco to Seattle. (Fig. 57.) The Mediterranean slope, however, is subtropical, especially around Nice, which is sheltered from north winds by the mountains (§52).

**427. Forest and Animal Products in France.** The spreading forests which Cæsar found in Gaul, in whose depths the Druids performed their mysterious rites, survive only in scattered patches. Timber is consequently an article of import.

The uplands pasture many sheep and, in the dry southeast, also goats which maintain the kid-glove industry of Grenoble. Swine are numerous in the chestnut groves which clothe the hillsides at moderate elevations. In the northwest, where the rains from the west winds maintain abundant pasturage, cattle and horses are extensively raised for market. This



FIG. 253. France.

district likewise produces dairy and poultry products for export to England. France is also an important honey-producing country, especially around Narbonne.

The Norman breed of horses, which formerly bore the heavily-armored knights through the desperate hand-to-hand

encounters of the Middle Ages, now furnishes fine draft animals, as well as the best cavalry and artillery horses.<sup>1</sup>

**428. Crop Products of France.** France is before all else an agricultural country. In fruit and flowers France holds first rank, producing all temperate and nearly all southern varieties in profusion. Commercially important are the vine which thrives on warm, south-facing slopes; apples and pears grown for cider along the English Channel; prunes around Bordeaux; olives and walnuts on the Mediterranean slope; flowers for the preparation of perfumes around Nice; citrons in Corsica. Brandy is distilled from wine at Cognac; alcohol for industrial purposes is made from potatoes, beets, molasses, and cider chiefly in the north.

In the production of wheat France is exceeded, in Europe, only by Russia. (Fig. 43.) The other important cereals are oats in the north, corn in the south, rye and buckwheat on the uplands. Along the English Channel, however, cereals have been abandoned in favor of early potatoes and other vegetables and berries, which reach the London market by special boats and trains. Other French specialties are mushrooms and truffles, the latter appearing spontaneously near a variety of oak in the region tributary to Bordeaux. Vegetables, like fish and fruit, are extensively tinned for export. These command high prices because of superior preparation.

The principal industrial crop is the sugar beet. This was introduced by Napoleon I in the hope of rendering France independent of the British West Indies which were at that time the chief source of cane sugar. Sugar beets are now extensively grown on the Anzin coal field near the Belgian border. Other important industrial products, though more or less decadent by reason of foreign competition, are raw silk in the Rhone Valley, flax and hemp in northern and western France, tobacco (a government monopoly) around Toulouse, oil seeds (colza) and dyestuffs (madder, saffron) in various districts.

<sup>1</sup> Shaler, *Domesticated Animals*.

Taken all in all, France is by nature the richest agricultural country in Europe; but owing to the small size of farms the methods of agriculture are in some districts incredibly crude.<sup>1</sup>

**429. Other Natural Resources of France.** France is second only to England, among the European nations, in her fisheries. This industry is subsidized by the government in order to provide seamen for the navy. Its chief seat is Brittany, where the rocky soil and broken coast line resemble our own New England. Nantes, however, is the commercial center of the sardine fishery, and the Arcachon lagoon, near Bordeaux, of oyster culture. (Fig. 256.)

In mineral resources, on the other hand, France is the poorest, next to Italy, of all the great nations. It is, indeed, the largest producer of bauxite (an ore of aluminum), asphaltum, and gypsum; and is also an important source of antimony and phosphate rock. On the other hand, France has only limited quantities of the great industrial metals (iron, copper, zinc, lead) and of mineral fuels. (Fig. 138.) Coal, indeed, occurs in the north, and in a belt surrounding the Central Plateau; but only in the Le Creusot district does it lie near iron ore. The coal beds are, moreover, small, deep-lying, often highly tilted, and therefore expensive to work.

Now that the age of electricity has dawned, however, France looks hopefully toward the waterfalls of the Alps. The glaciers are a mine of "white coal" which, unlike the product of the earth, does not waste away in the using but renews itself from year to year. Already there are signs of a new French industrial district near the Alps.

**430. The Manufactures of France.** French export manufactures are, like the Swiss, mainly such as have a relatively large value in small bulk. Artistic design, multiplying

"The plows and harrows, with few exceptions, are of primitive style; grass is cut only with scythes and grain with sickles; raking is done with hand rakes; seeds are sown broadcast; threshing is accomplished by small hand flails, or in some cases by tramping; and winnowing is often effected by a rustic sieve and a fresh breeze." (*Commercial Relations of the U. S.*, 1902.) This description, however, does not apply to the richer and more progressive districts.

manyfold the value of the product, is the true basis of French manufacturing prosperity. The first place is held by textiles, including silks, especially fine hand-woven goods at Lyons, and ribbons at St. Étienne; woolens around Roubaix, near coal and accessible to Argentine wool; worsted goods at Reims, among the sheep walks of Champagne; cottons on the lower Seine, especially at Rouen which uses American cotton and British coal, and also along the foot of the Vosges, which afford water power; linen at Lille in the principal flax district; hemp at Le Havre and jute at Dunkirk, where the imported materials are landed; finally, machine-made lace at Calais.

The mineral industries are naturally found near the coal fields. Examples are iron manufactures at Le Creusot and St. Étienne; glass at St. Étienne and Anzin; porcelain at Limoges, where pure kaolin lies close to coal. Fine wares are also produced in other districts where the trade has been long established, notably Sévres china, St. Gobain mirrors, Nancy hardware, Besançon watches. A recent industry of great importance is the manufacture of automobiles.

Other articles largely exported are leather goods, fine paper, soap, and candles. These are manufactured on a large scale at Marseilles, the world's greatest market for oil seeds.

Fully a fourth of the manufactures of France come from Paris, including articles of art and luxury such as bronze goods, jewelry, elegant furniture, carpets, Gobelin tapestries, shoes, dresses, and millinery. For this reason Paris is the Mecca of women the world over.

**431. Trade Routes and Centers of France.** The rivers of France, radiating from the Central Plateau, cause the routes of trade and travel to converge and cross. This fact has favored the political and commercial unity of France. The larger rivers are generally navigable, though the Rhone is too swift and the Loire too fluctuating for regular use. The rivers are, moreover, linked together, and connected with the Rhine, by an extensive system of canals operated in part by steam

and electric traction. Boats can pass from Le Havre or Bordeaux to Marseilles; cotton is carried by canal to the foot of the Vosges. The internal water ways move about a fourth of the total tonnage. (Fig. 253.)

The great national highways, almost deserted after railways were built, have been restored to honor and commercial usefulness by the automobile.

The railways radiate mainly from Paris to the seaports and frontiers. An immense transit trade from England and Belgium crosses the "French Peninsula" by way of the Seine or



FIG. 254. *Part of the water front in the port of Marseilles.*

Garonne and the Rhone valleys to Marseilles. The railways across the land frontiers are also of international importance,<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The principal international lines are: Paris-Berlin, along the edge of the great European plain; Paris-Vienna, one going by Zabern Pass in the Vosges and the Danube (Orient Express route), another by Belfort Gap and the Arlberg Tunnel; Paris-Turin, through the Mont Cenis Tunnel; Paris-Milan through the Simplon Tunnel; Marseilles-Genoa along the coast; and two into Spain past the ends of the Pyrenees. Another from Toulouse through the Pyrenees, provided for by treaty, will render Barcelona commercially a French seaport.

especially those connecting Paris with Berlin and St. Petersburg, Vienna and Constantinople, Milan, Madrid, and Lisbon.

The French coast is flat and devoid of natural harbors, other than river ports, except in the peninsulas of Brittany and Toulon. The principal seaport is Marseilles near the mouth of the Rhone. (Fig. 254.) This is the outlet of France toward Africa, Asia, the Suez Canal, and the French colonies. Le Havre, the port of Paris, is the sea-gate of France toward America, importing chiefly cotton, coffee, and other tropical products. Part of its trade has, however, migrated up stream with the deepening of the Seine to Rouen (twenty-two feet) and Paris (ten feet). Dunkirk, being nearest the Roubaix textile district, is third in value of goods handled and is

	51%	28%	14%	7%
<i>Exports by classes.....</i>	<b>Manufactures</b> 570 million dollars	<b>Raw materials</b> 306	<b>Food stuffs</b> 150	<b>All others</b> 82
	64%	19%	17%	
<i>Imports by classes.....</i>	<b>Raw materials</b> 776 million dollars	<b>Manufactures</b> 233	<b>Food stuffs</b> 200	

Data from Report of Dept. of Trade and Commerce of Canada, Dec., 1907

FIG. 255. *Commerce of France. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 1,108, largely to Great Britain, Belgium, and Germany; imports, 1,209, largely from Great Britain, United States, and Germany.*

growing rapidly. It imports chiefly wool and jute. The trade of southwestern France is divided between Bordeaux, the principal port for French wines and olive oil, with its out-port Pauillac; Nantes, which has secured fairly deep water by a ship canal, with its out-port, St. Nazaire; and the ancient Huguenot stronghold, La Rochelle (La Pallice). The ferry-ports on the English Channel are chiefly Calais, Boulogne, and Dieppe.

France lies nearly in the middle of the land hemisphere, fronting the three most-frequented seas. Its sea ways to eastern Europe, Asia, Africa, and South America are shorter, while to North America they are little longer, than those of

Great Britain. So far as position is concerned, France is, therefore, even better placed for commerce than is Great Britain.

**432. The Character of French Commerce.** Despite its position and transportation facilities, however, France is almost stationary in population and commerce (Fig. 255), while the merchant marine depends on government bounties. The reason is partly the crushing burden of taxes, but largely the character of French industry.

France exports, for the most part, manufactured goods which are articles of luxury, importing in return raw materials and certain classes of foodstuffs. The market for luxuries in prosperous times is fairly steady, and the rich will always buy them; but it is limited compared to the market for necessities. French vessels, moreover, lacking bulky outgoing cargoes, are unable to compete on even terms with British and German ships. For these reasons France, though prosperous, cannot contend for commercial supremacy against those nations which, being better endowed with coal and iron, are able to manufacture for the millions.

**433. France Beyond the Sea.** To make good the loss of Alsace-Lorraine (1871), and offset in some measure the lack of more land and coal at home, France has acquired a new colonial empire second only to that of England.

In Europe France has only a share in the protectorate over Andorra and a virtual protectorate over the small principality of Monaco—the gambling den of Europe. Corsica, though Italian in speech, has been incorporated with France.

The principal possessions of France are the bulk of West Africa (from Algeria to the Congo), Madagascar, and Indo-China. These French colonies are larger than the United States and have a population exceeding 50,000,000. Their annual cost to France, though large, is decreasing; their resources, on the other hand, show a rapid increase. In several, the language and institutions of France have struck firm root; and no one who has ever visited Quebec doubts that the French race has some remarkable staying qualities.



### XXXI—GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

*"No commerce enriches a nation like the commerce of the sea."*

**434. Great Britain and Ireland.** Great Britain though beset by powerful rivals, is still the greatest commercial nation in the world. (Fig. 238.)

The British people, compounded of Celt, Anglo-Saxon, Dane, and Norman, have long been distinguished for independence, energy, and tenacity; and the British government, though a monarchy in name, is singularly responsive to the popular will. Neither king nor lords dare long oppose any policy supported by a substantial majority of the Commons.

The British Isles lie farther north than the United States, Glasgow nearly in the latitude of Sitka. The climate is mild and moist, however, owing to the Atlantic and the prevailing west winds. This climate favors moderate but sustained activity of body and mind. Field work, moreover, is seldom interrupted by winter, or navigation by ice, though grain sometimes fails to ripen because of cloudy weather.

The mountains, continuations of the Scandinavian system, traverse the north and west, while the east and south are severed portions of the north European plain. The larger island, therefore, faces commercially toward the continent and the Orient. Ireland on the other hand—a saucer-shaped plain with a broken mountain rim—"turns its back on England," as its main river, the Shannon, enters the sea on the west.

**435. Products of the Soil in the British Isles.** No other great nation is so dependent on other lands for food. If the supplies from overseas were interrupted, Great Britain would starve in less than six months.

The moist climate favors grass and roots rather than grain. The mountains and southern chalk hills or downs are also poor

in soil. The country is thus by nature pastoral rather than agricultural; in the Middle Ages it was the chief wool-producing country in Europe. Moreover, since the repeal of the tax on imported grain (1849), grass has rapidly gained on the plow lands; and by reason of Australian and Argentinian competition, even the grazing industry has somewhat declined, much land especially in the highlands being abandoned to grouse and deer. Cattle are, however, fairly numerous on the damper western slopes, sheep on the drier hills or downs of the south and east, while the Channel Islands are noted for fine breeds of dairy cattle, notably Jerseys. Ireland, the "Emerald Isle" where the pasturage is unfailing, ships butter and bacon to England.

Forests have practically disappeared, except in pleasure parks and game preserves.

The land is mostly held in great estates, and worked by tenants who pay fixed cash rentals. Having a right to whatever they produce in excess of the rent, they farm the land very intensively. The crops are chiefly oats and potatoes; with barley, wheat, and fruits toward the east and south; flax in the north of Ireland, early vegetables in the Channel and Scilly islands.

**436. The Fisheries of the British Isles.** A general elevation of 600 feet would again carry the edge of the continent far beyond Ireland. This immense expanse of shallow water surrounding the British Isles serves as the feeding and spawning ground of myriads of fish. (Fig. 256.) Great Britain is thus, by virtue of its position, the greatest fishing nation in Europe.

Fish that "school" and approach the surface, such as mackerel, herring, and pilchards, are taken either in seines or drift nets. Ground fish such as cod are still taken on hand lines inshore, and halibut by this method everywhere; but deep-sea fishing is mostly with trawl nets, usually one hundred by fifty by four feet in size, which are dragged along the sea bottom at night, sometimes bringing up five tons of fish at a haul. The



Barrow-in-Furness. Much iron ore, however, is imported from Spain and Sweden to feed the British furnaces.

The true wealth of Britain is in her coal beds, which constitute her "Black Indies," richer by far than the India of Clive and Hastings. The coal fields lie chiefly on the flanks of the Pennine Range, which forms the principal divide in England; in southern Wales, where the coal is largely anthracite; and in the lowlands of Scotland. (Fig. 238.) Ireland has only a very little coal of inferior quality, and largely uses peat for fuel. Lack of coal is the great economic defect of Ireland, as of Italy. The British coal fields exceed in area those of all the rest of Europe outside of Russia.

**438. The Rise of British Manufactures.** Throughout the Middle Ages, Great Britain was almost exclusively a pastoral and agricultural country. At the close of that period, the extension of sheep runs, driving many tenants from the soil, was one cause that helped to plant the English race in America.

Manufactures profited from the immigration of skilled artisans from France during the religious wars of the sixteenth century, and still more from England's conquest of a vast colonial empire during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The demand for manufactured goods in these colonies doubtless had some connection with the series of great inventions in England—for example, the spinning jenny and power loom—which have revolutionized the industry of the world. They gave Great Britain a practical monopoly of production by machinery; and this monopoly was confirmed for more than a century by the use of steam, owing to the wealth of Great Britain in coal and iron. Napoleon I forbade trade with England, but was driven to violate his own edict in order to clothe his army. Only within the last generation has any nation been able seriously to compete with England in machine-made goods.

**439. The Textile Industry.** The textile industry was the first, and is still the most important, branch of British manufactures. (Fig. 279.) Wool is woven chiefly on the eastern

slope of the Pennine Range, at Bradford and Leeds and also in Scotland, both being sheep-raising districts containing large coal fields; cotton in the west around Manchester over another coal field, where the climate is moist (which decreases the breakages of thread in the processes of manufacture) and American cotton is easily accessible. Linen, again, is worked at Belfast in the flax-growing region; linen products (shirts, collars, cuffs) not far away at Londonderry; and silk in the midlands at Derby, where the water is suitable for dyeing. Dundee, being favorably located for getting flax from the Baltic, formerly manufactured linen almost exclusively, but turned to jute when the supply of Russian flax was cut off by the Crimean War (1854-56) and is now the principal center of jute manufacture in Europe. (Fig. 225.) In Ireland and the northern islands homespun cloth is still woven on hand looms. Finally, some localizations of industry are apparently due merely to an early start and acquired momentum—for example, the manufacture of carpets at Kidderminster and Wilton and the manufacture of lace and hosiery at Nottingham.

**440. Grain and Sugar Industries.** Other industries employing agricultural materials are the distillation of barley whisky in Scotland and Ireland, where considerable barley is grown; flour milling at Liverpool, where American wheat is landed; and sugar refining in all the principal ports which receive cargoes of raw sugar. The development of flour milling in west England, despite the damp climate (which renders more difficult the production of high-grade flour) has been sufficient to decrease the imports of American flour. It is no doubt due to the fact that Liverpool is the greatest market in the world for wheat, receiving supplies at all seasons.

**441. Mineral Industries.** The iron industry began near great forests which furnished charcoal, but now persists only where coal is available. Blast furnaces for the smelting of ore are found chiefly in the Middlesbrough and Barrow-in-Furness districts, containing both coal and iron, and on the south Wales coal field, where Spanish ore is smelted.

Birmingham, near the ancient forest of Arden, is, however, the principal hardware center. From Birmingham west stretches the "Black Country," shrouded with smoke by day and lit with flashes of fire by night from the countless iron works. Sheffield specializes in cutlery, having excellent sandstone for grinding. Ship building centers chiefly on the Clyde at Glasgow, and at Newcastle-on-Tyne and Belfast, all having easy access to coal and iron. Belfast indeed obtains coal by sea more cheaply than inland towns within fifty miles of the coal fields. Other metals—tin, lead, zinc, copper—are smelted at Swansea, near the Welsh coal field and accessible to the tin of Cornwall, though the ores are now mostly imported.

Glass and pottery are also made on the coal fields: glass at Birmingham and St. Helens; porcelain at Derby, Worcester, and in the district around Stoke-upon-Trent, called "The Potteries." Chemical works are found chiefly in the seaports, accessible to imported materials.

**442. Situation and Transportation Facilities.** To the ancients, Britain lay at the edge of the world, bordered by the unknown "Sea of Darkness." The voyage of Columbus suddenly placed it in the center of the world. America was thus the making of England. Moreover, the "silver thread" of the Channel, preventing invasion by land, left England unburdened by a great standing army, and therefore free to seek her fortune on the ocean. This advantage more than offset the even more central location of France.

The coast line, deeply indented by estuaries and bays, favors maritime pursuits. Moreover, the high tides carry navigable depths well up the rivers.

The rivers are connected by an extensive network of canals built during the two generations (1765-1830) before the introduction of railroads; but most of them are navigable only by small canal boats and many are controlled by railroads, which naturally permit no competition. The proportion of freight moved by water is thus only a fifth as large in Great Britain as

in France. The Manchester Ship Canal,<sup>1</sup> however, renders Manchester a seaport independent of Liverpool, and from it lines of steamships now sail to many parts of the world. It already ranks fourth among British seaports. Such is the superiority of ocean transportation that the migration of industries to salt water, noticeable in various countries, can only be checked by thus, in effect, bringing the sea inland.

The British highways are admirable, in striking contrast to their condition in the eighteenth century; and the railways, encountering few heavy grades, bring practically every part of the larger island within twelve hours of London. In Ireland the lines radiate from Dublin, which commands the principal eastern entrance to the central plain.

**443. Seaports of Great Britain.** The leading commercial ports are on the rivers which enter the sea nearly opposite each other, thus bringing the ports near together, for example, those on the Clyde and Forth, Mersey and The Humber, Thames and Severn.

London, the metropolis, banking center, and long the greatest seaport of the world, was originally a Roman camp on the first hill encountered in ascending the river. This was a convenient point for crossing—at first by ferry, later by bridge. London Bridge was thus in a sense the cause of London. The stupendous growth of London resulted from its position opposite the mouths of the Rhine and Meuse, at the natural gateway of southern England, and from its distributing trade in oriental wares before the Suez Canal was opened. It is still the principal world market for tea and wine. The largest ships, however, are now compelled to stop at Tilbury Docks, far below the city; and the great continental ports, especially New York, Hamburg, and Antwerp, have outstripped London in tonnage. (Fig. 291.)

The other leading ports are Cardiff (with Barry Docks) on the Severn, exporting anthracite; Liverpool on the Mersey, the emporium for American and West African trade, especially

<sup>1</sup>Length thirty-five and one-half miles; depth twenty-eight feet.

cotton, wheat, meat, and tobacco; Manchester reached by canal; Hull on The Humber, opposite the Weser, Elbe, and Kiel Ship Canal, and therefore the natural outlet for North Sea and Baltic trade; Glasgow in Scotland and Belfast in northern Ireland, whence the sea way is shortest to Canada and even to New York. Bristol, though crippled by shallow water, retains a trade in sugar, cocoa, and West India fruits.

The principal passenger and mail ports are Dover, Folkestone, and Newhaven toward France and Belgium; Harwich toward Holland; Holyhead on a projecting island toward Ireland; Queensland, the outport of Cork, Fishguard, Plymouth, and Southampton, toward America. It is now possible for passengers landing at Fishguard to breakfast in New York on Wednesday, and in London on the following Monday.

**444. The Character of British Commerce.** Great Britain is the largest exporter of manufactures in the world (Fig. 257), and has been enabled by these exports to support at least three times as many people as could be fed from her own soil. Her imports, therefore, are for the most part foodstuffs and raw materials.

British imports exceed the exports by more than a billion dollars a year because of British investments abroad, revenue received from tourists, the earnings of British ships, and the banking profits of London on international transactions. This excess of British imports consequently represents the tribute which the world annually pays to Great Britain.

**445. Greater Britain.** The British Empire has, in round numbers, four times the area and five times the population of the United States. (Table 4.)

In Europe it includes, besides Gibraltar and Malta, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands, which are French-speaking; both enjoying a large measure of independence.

Preëminent among the outlying possessions are Canada and Newfoundland, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa; all in the Temperate zone and enjoying almost complete rights of self-government. These are the "younger nations" on



whom during the Boer War, according to Kipling, England, in her need, "fawned for the men who could ride and shoot."

India is a dependent empire ruled in the name of the king as Emperor of India. Some of the older tropical colonies like Barbados and Ceylon have local legislatures with limited powers; but most of the lesser British possessions are either Crown Colonies under the control of the Colonial Secretary, like Hong-kong, or naval stations like Aden and St. Helena.

	80%		13%		7%	
Exports by classes..... (Home produce)	Manufactures 1,665 million dollars			Coal and raw materials 268		All others 160
	38%		38%		24%	
Imports by classes.....	Food stuffs 1,804 million dollars		Raw materials 1,176		Manufactures and sundries 763	
	10%	18%	11%	11%	7%	4%
Exports by countries.....	To India 250	Other possessions 450	United States 283	Germany 276	France 163	Russia 96
						All others 985
	7%	17%	21%	8%	6%	6%
Imports by countries.....	From India 214	Other possessions 551	United States 651	France 257	Germany 189	Netherlands 179
						Russia 153
						All others 949

Data from U. S. Consular Reports, Ann., No. 16

FIG. 257 *Commerce of Great Britain. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports of home produce, 2,073; re-exports (transit trade), 448; total exports, 2,521; imports, 3,143.*

Large territories in Africa and Borneo are administered by chartered companies like those which originally colonized America. Still larger territories under British protection are ruled through native princes, as in Egypt and the native states of India. Finally, on the fringe of the empire, are immense "spheres of influence" where British authority is still little more than a name. So vast and varied is the British Empire.

## XXXII—THE LESSER NORTH SEA NATIONS

*"Rigor of climate tends to breed vigorous, somewhat forethoughtful men."—Shaler.*

**446. The Scandinavian Peoples.** "From the fury of the Danes and Northmen, good Lord, deliver us." This was the prayer repeated in every church of western Europe for some five centuries when the roving Vikings or sea kings of Scandinavia were the terror of the world, ravaging nearly every coast, conquering Normandy and England, penetrating to the heart of Russia and even to Constantinople. The same expansive movement of population is represented to-day by the Scandinavian farmers who have settled almost in solid masses in the North Central states of the American Union. Both movements, the warlike and the peaceful, had the same cause: a rapid increase of population on a sterile soil which left but two alternatives, migration or starvation.

Since Norway by a peaceful revolution achieved her independence, the Scandinavian states consist of three separate constitutional kingdoms—Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. Norway, however, speaking a dialect of Danish and opening toward the west, is extremely democratic, while Sweden, facing the continent, is as aristocratic as Germany. In all the Scandinavian states education is practically universal, offsetting in part the larger natural resources of more southern lands.

**447. The Scandinavian Peninsula.** The Scandinavian Peninsula consists, in the main, of a lofty plateau ridged with mountains. (Fig. 258.) On the east the land dips gently beneath the sea; but on the west it descends abruptly, leaving scant room for agriculture. This peninsula is in the latitude, and has substantially the climate, of Alaska. It is, however, somewhat milder because a great tide of warm water, driven by the west wind, flows up the western coast and the wind, in turn, is tempered by blowing over the water.

**448. The Resources of the Scandinavian Peninsula.** The resources of the Scandinavian Peninsula are chiefly those of the sea, forest, and mine.

The Norwegians are in proportion to their numbers the greatest fishing people in the world. The catch is chiefly cod on the Lofoten bank and herring around Bergen. Whales

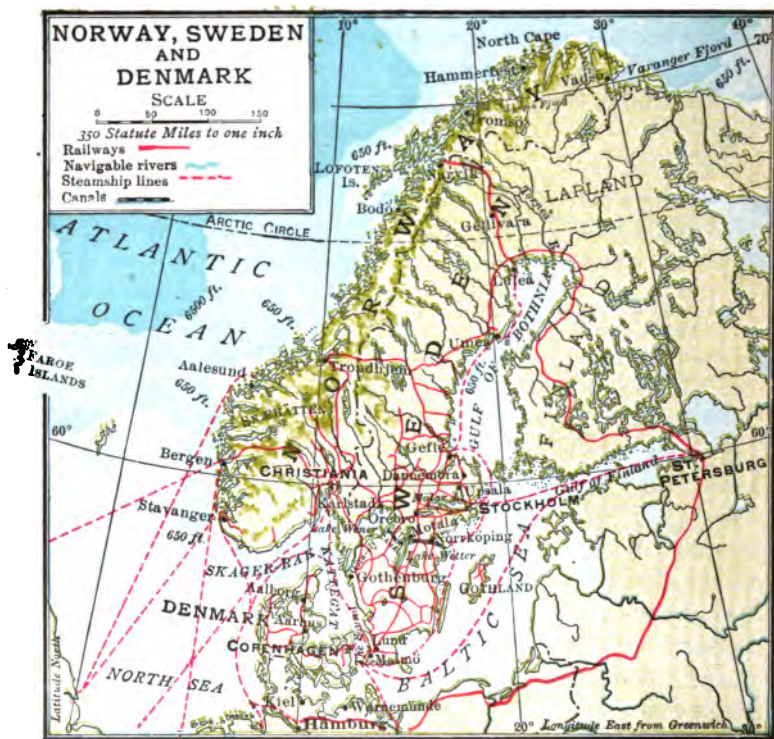


FIG. 258. *Scandinavian countries.*

and fur-bearing animals are also hunted in the Far North. By-products of the fishing industry are fish oils and fertilizers.

Timber occurs on the seaward slopes and is of excellent quality, being close-grained and tough because of the rocky soil and short summers. It is exported in the form of lumber,

staves, or wood pulp (Figs. 259 and 260); and also supports important furniture, paper, and match industries. Swedish matches are sold all over the world.

The mines of Dannemora were the foundation of the ancient Swedish iron industry. Charcoal is still employed for smelting, the product being expensive but of finer quality than coal iron, as it contains few impurities. Other large iron ore beds have recently been opened around Gellivara and the Varanger Fiord in the Far North. Copper, silver-lead, and zinc ores are also mined, to a limited extent, in the rich metalliferous district north of Stockholm. Coal is lacking, except a small field in the extreme south; but peat, dried and pressed into briquettes, is extensively burned in Sweden even on railways.

32%	24%	20%	12%	6%	5% 1%
Russia 5.9 million tons	Sweden 4.46	Austria- Hungary 3.67	Canada 2.14	Norway 1.04	U. S. 1.00

Data from Forest Service, Circular, 140

FIG. 259. *Average net wood exports (millions of tons)<sup>1</sup>: 18.37.*

37%	30%	13%	5%	5%	10%
Norway 1,114 million lbs.	Sweden 914	Canada 404	Germany 156	Austria- Hungary 148	All other Countries 314

Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907

FIG. 260. *Wood pulp exports. Totals in 1906, 3,050 million pounds.*

The soil rewards but scantily the farmer's toil. Pasturage, however, is abundant, supporting cattle, sheep, and in the extreme north reindeer—"the camel of the frozen desert." Butter, margarine (oleomargarine), and condensed milk are largely exported. The arable land, chiefly in the district around Christiania and south of Stockholm, yields potatoes and oats. Other grain crops are insufficient for local use. Owing to the moderating effect of the ocean and the west winds, barley ripens in Norway even beyond the Arctic Circle.

Modern dairies and margarine factories are fairly numerous; some cotton and woollen mills are at work in southern Sweden, at Gothenburg and Norrköping. Norway would

<sup>1</sup>According to the kind of wood a ton is equivalent to from 500 to 1,000 board feet. (U. S. Forest Service, Circular, No. 140.)

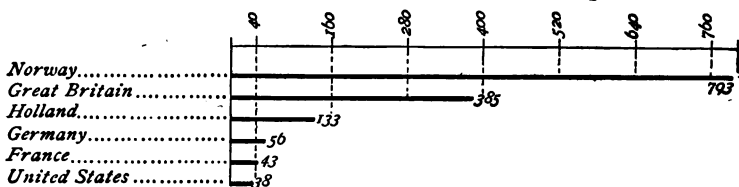
also seem to have favorable conditions for the textile industry in her water power and damp climate. Another promising industry, in view of the abundant water power, is the manufacture of air-nitrates, using the electric process (§117).

**449. The Commerce of the Scandinavian Peninsula.** Norway exports mainly lumber and fish; Sweden, lumber and iron ore, also some iron goods more or less wrought. Both import foodstuffs and manufactured goods.

The Norwegian coast is ice-free except in the sheltered Christiania Bay. It is deeply cut by fiords, the work of ancient glaciers, and fringed by islands which break the force of the Atlantic surges. The Norse, trained in the fisheries, are thus naturally the most maritime people in the world, and have by far the largest merchant fleet in proportion to population. (Fig. 261.) Their principal seaports are Christiania, which has valleys opening up behind it, and Bergen, the center of the fish trade.

The Baltic, cut off from the ocean and exposed to the winds from the Russian plain, is usually icebound four months each year. The principal Swedish ports are Gothenburg, ice-free because of its western exposure, and Stockholm located at the outlet of an important lake in the most fertile district of Sweden.

The rivers are useful chiefly for logging and power. There is, however, a water route from sea to sea by way of the great Swedish lakes and the Göta Canal (nine feet deep)



Data from Review of World's Commerce, Bureau of Statistics, 1903

FIG. 261. Tonnage of merchant marine per 1,000 people, showing relative importance of ocean shipping.

The railway system is large relative to the population. Christiania is connected with the western coast at Bergen.

Other lines across the mountains render Trondhjem the winter port of central Sweden, and Narvik the outlet of the Gellivara iron district. Since the completion of the railway around the Baltic, indeed, Narvik has become the winter port of St. Petersburg.<sup>1</sup>

**450. The Resources of Denmark.** Denmark lives almost exclusively from the soil. The surface is flat, and most of

46%	26%	28%
Butter 45 million dollars	Bacon and hams 26	All others 29

FIG. 262. *Exports of Denmark. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 99, chiefly to Great Britain and Germany; imports, 160, largely corn and oil cake, coal, and manufactures.*

the soil very sandy. Destruction of the splendid beech forests which formerly abounded has caused sand dunes to invade the west. Even in the east, tillage demands constant use of fertilizers.

Most of the land is consequently under grass and the principal exports are animal products—butter, margarine, bacon, eggs, and live animals. (Fig. 262.) Butter, made in coöperative creameries, is the true economic foundation of Denmark. Nowhere else has the coöperative plan in agriculture been tried so extensively or with such striking success. Bacon is a by-product of butter making, the skim milk being fed to pigs. The field crops include, besides grain and potatoes, beets from which considerable sugar and alcohol are produced. Leather goods, especially gloves, are also exported.

**451. Facilities for Commerce in Denmark.** The historic importance and present existence of Denmark are alike due to its position, controlling the entrance to the Baltic. The great nations, owing to their mutual rivalries, would not willingly see any one of their number master at Copenhagen.

This city is the natural distributing center for the Baltic trade, though Hamburg has become a formidable rival by

<sup>1</sup>A long finger of Russian territory, however, points ominously toward the ice-free Lyngen Fiord and the harbor of Tromsø.

virtue of the ship canal to Kiel. Copenhagen has, in addition to steamship lines, direct rail connection by means of car ferries with Sweden, the Danish Peninsula, and Warnemünde on the route to Berlin.

**452. The Danish Possessions.** Denmark possesses the Faroe Islands and Iceland, inhabited by a sturdy and well-

educated race descended from Norse Vikings. They live by fishing, sheep raising, and collecting eiderdown from the nests of wild ducks. Denmark likewise controls Greenland, which is mostly an ice field, and three islands in the West Indies. The development of the Danish West Indies has been taken in hand, since the failure of the last attempt of the United States to purchase them from Denmark (1902), by a company financed by German capitalists.



FIG. 263. *The Low Countries.*

**453. The Low Countries.** The Netherlands (Fig. 263) is the gift of the Rhine, Meuse, and Scheldt, as Egypt is of the Nile; but a gift in large part won from the waves by century-long battles with the encroaching sea. Moreover the sea, which could be summoned by cutting the dikes to defend the

land, alone made possible its political independence. Holland as a nation is thus the product of the ocean, as Switzerland is of the Alps.

Belgium, on the other hand, lacking natural boundaries in all directions, has always been a debatable land. No equal area is so sown with battlefields. It has, in fact, no reason for separate existence except the inability of the nations to agree upon a division. The larger part is Dutch (Flemish) in speech, while the southern hill country is French. The linguistic boundary runs from Courtrai past the historic field of Waterloo to Verviers. (Fig. 229.)

**454. Natural Resources of the Low Countries.** Patches of forests exist on the broken Ardennes Plateau in southeastern Belgium; but timber is a large import both in Holland and Belgium.

Much of the land is under grass. The drier east pastures sheep, the low-lying west pastures dairy cattle and draft horses. Belgian horses are largely exported. In Belgium, where less than half the farms contain as much as two and a half acres each, pigs, poultry, rabbits, and draft dogs<sup>1</sup> are also important.

The land being so subdivided, agriculture is a matter for the spade rather than the plow.

The staple foods are rye and potatoes, though other grains are also sown. Immense quantities of vegetables and flowers are raised under glass. From parts of Holland, special cabbage, cucumber, and meat trains are run to the seaports for the London market. Sugar beets are extensively grown in both Holland and Belgium. Other industrial crops comprise the finest flax in the Lys Valley, tobacco near Courtrai, chicory in the Bruges district, and oil seeds (colza, rape) around Ghent. Chicory is a root which came into use during the wars of Napoleon as a substitute for coffee.

The Dutch began their career on the sea as fishermen, and fishing is still a great primary industry of the Netherlands.

<sup>1</sup>See Ouida's *Dog of Flanders*.



The hilly district in southern Belgium is rich in minerals; notably iron at Liège, zinc at Moresnet, silver-lead at Verviers, coal around Mons, Charleroi, and Liège. By reason of these resources, which support manufactures, Belgium is the most densely-populated country in Europe, and the immigration still exceeds the emigration. (Fig. 240.)

**455. Manufactures of the Low Countries.** The Netherlands, having neither coal nor water power, has few manufactures. Those of large commercial importance are chiefly pottery at Delft, diamond polishing at Amsterdam, and the preparation of colonial wares such as quinine and tobacco. The steady winds furnish considerable power for drainage and local industries.

Belgium, on the other hand, is once more the greatest hive of industry on the mainland of Europe, as it was during the Middle Ages. The linen industry flourishes along the river Lys, where the water, being free from lime salts, is peculiarly adapted for retting flax—that is, separating the fiber from the stalk. Ghent in the flax-growing lowlands is the center of linen manufacture, and also of cotton, hemp, and jute manufactures; while Verviers on the sheep-raising Ardennes Plateau is the center of woolen, and Brussels of carpet and lace manufacture. Belgium is the greatest lace-manufacturing country in the world. The mineral manufactures are naturally located on the Belgian coal fields. The Liège field contains many zinc smelters. Seraing, a suburb of Liège, rivals Le Creusot and Birmingham in steel. Firearms are another specialty of this district. Charleroi is noted for glass, in which Belgium holds first place, and Jemappes for pottery.

**456. Trade Routes and Centers of the Low Countries.** The Netherlands has a superb system of water ways, both natural and artificial; Belgium leads the world in railway mileage relative to area. (Fig 289.) The coast, however, is sandy and the sea shallow far out, while the rivers require such constant dredging that most of the Belgian-Dutch ports now rely on ship canals.

The old commercial center of Holland is Amsterdam, near the head of the Zuider Zee. It has a ship canal to the North Sea, and other canals to the Rhine and into Belgium.<sup>1</sup> Owing to the Dutch East Indies, Amsterdam is the first coffee market in the world and next to London the largest market for all other East India products. Rotterdam on the northern mouth of the Rhine (now superseded for commercial purposes by a ship canal) handles an enormous transit trade. Over a hundred thousand river and canal boats enter yearly. It is, in fact, the natural seaport of the whole Rhine Valley and tends to supersede Amsterdam as the chief commercial city. Fast passenger traffic between London and Berlin goes by way of Flushing.

The commercial center of Belgium is Antwerp, lying some miles up the Scheldt but accessible to the largest vessels. It is also connected by canals with the Seine and the Rhine, besides the industrial centers of Liège and Charleroi. Antwerp has come to the front with great rapidity and is now ahead of all other European ports in tonnage entered and cleared.<sup>2</sup> (Fig. 291.) Bruges, which was the entrepôt of Venetian trade in the fourteenth century, has again secured a ship canal to the sea,<sup>3</sup> as has also its ancient rival, Ghent.<sup>4</sup> Heyst (Zeebrügge) is a new outport of Bruges at the mouth of the canal, but passenger traffic still goes by way of Ostend.

**457. The Commerce of the Low Countries.** During the seventeenth century the Netherlands held the commercial supremacy in Europe. In proportion to population, the Low Countries still have the largest foreign commerce. (Table 4.) This is the result not only of their position and facilities for transportation, but also of the character and

<sup>1</sup>The North Sea Canal, fifteen miles long and twenty-nine feet deep; the Merwede Canal, ten and one-half feet, to the Rhine; the Willems Canal to Belgium.

<sup>2</sup>Tonnage, however, is not an entirely safe guide to commercial importance. A vessel may stop at an intermediate port without leaving or taking away much freight.

<sup>3</sup>Twenty-six and one-half feet deep, seven miles long.

<sup>4</sup>The Terneuzen Canal, nineteen miles long, now deepened to twenty-eight and one-half feet.

technical education of their inhabitants. There are Schools of Commerce at Amsterdam, Antwerp, and elsewhere; Commercial Museums at Amsterdam and Brussels; and an extensive system of industrial education in Belgium.

In consequence of difference in natural resources, the Netherlands exports largely dairy products, margarine, and mutton, while Belgium exports chiefly manufactures. Both import foodstuffs. In addition, the Netherlands imports manufactured goods, and Belgium imports raw materials.

**458. The Colonies of the Low Countries.** The Dutch colonies are a legacy from the days when Admiral Van Tromp carried a broom at his masthead as a token that he would sweep from the sea every opposing fleet. These colonies

	39%	27%	16%	18%
<i>Exports by classes.....</i>	Food stuffs	Raw materials	Manufactures	All others

	22%	13%	13%	12%	11%	9%	20%
<i>Imports by countries.....</i>	From Germany	Dutch East Indies	United States	Great Britain	Belgium	Russia	All others

Data from U. S. Consular Reports, Ann., No. 17

FIG. 264. *The commerce of the Netherlands. Totals in 1905 (millions of dollars): exports, 780; imports, 1,031. These figures include a large transit trade.*

	23%	5%	13%	4%	5%	3%	3%	44%
<i>Exports by classes.....</i>	Metals and metal manufactures	Fertilizers and yarn	Farm products	Coal	Dye, tannin, chemicals	Diamonds	Glass	All others
	17%	13%	12%	8%	8%	7%	6%	29%
<i>Imports by countries.....</i>	From France	Great Britain	Germany	United States	Netherlands	Argentina	Russia	All others

Statesman's Year Book, 1909

FIG. 265. *The commerce of Belgium. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 541; imports, 716*

embrace most of the East India islands, besides important possessions in the West Indies. They are collectively smaller

than the French colonial empire, but far richer. The Dutch are incontestably the ablest administrators of plantation colonies, as the English are of self-governing colonies.



FIG. 266. *How the natives live in the "World of the Great Forest"—  
Town of Bapoto, Belgian Congo.*

King Leopold of Belgium, desirous of increasing his private income, organized a company which sent out Stanley to explore the Congo, and then by virtue of his official position got permission from the great nations to organize a sort of independent state. (Fig. 266.) Recently, however, the Congo State has been annexed by Belgium. Through this connection, Antwerp has become the principal market in the world for rubber, ivory, and copal gum.

### XXXIII—THE GERMAN EMPIRE

*"The principal capital of Germany is its intelligence."*

—United States Consul Harris.

**459. The German Nation.** After the battle of Sedan (1870) the word went forth: "The German schoolmaster has conquered." With her laurels fresh upon her, Germany turned with equal energy to the pursuits of peace; and in her commercial victories it is again the German schoolmaster who has conquered. Bismarck said: "Whoever has the school has the future."<sup>1</sup> The industrial success of Germany is largely a victory of trained intelligence—"a success that springs from power, a power that rests on knowledge."

To accomplish this result, education was made in fact universal; and the splendid system of primary, secondary, and university instruction, which has rendered Germany the fountain head of learning for the modern world, was supplemented by many schools for farmers, artisans, and business men. These special schools are grafted on the trunk of general education, branching off at different elevations. The highest are the great agricultural, technical, commercial, and colonial schools, of true university rank, which train the captains of German industry and commerce.

The German people, more than any other in modern times, is also imbued with the spirit of "work, duty, and discipline," and has carried into the competition of international commerce the ardor and discipline of the battlefield.

**460. The German Government.** The German Empire is a Federal state like the United States, embracing kingdoms and principalities large and small, also the three Free (republican) city-states of Hamburg, Bremen, and Lübeck—the remnants of the once mighty Hanse. (Fig. 267.) From

<sup>1</sup>*"Wer die Schule hat, hat die Zukunft."*

the American view point, indeed, there is too much government in Germany, and far too much restriction of private initiative; but a highly organized and centralized government is undeniably a great advantage, now that competition in the markets of the world is no longer between individuals but between nations.

**461. Forestry and Animal Products in Germany.** Germany is not richly endowed by nature. The soil is light and sandy



FIG. 267. *The German Empire and Luxembourg.*

in the northern plain, rocky on the uplands. Only the valleys of the south and center, with certain districts around Posen, are naturally fertile. The climate is generally cold and raw, while the east is subject to great extremes of temperature.

The uplands are largely forested, the young trees being saved when the mature are cut. The forests are as a rule state or municipal property and yield handsome revenues.

The moist lowlands toward the west and the southern plateau pasture numerous dairy cattle; the drier eastern districts have sheep and horses; and there are many swine in the oak forests of Westphalia. Stock raising has made remarkable progress, considering the dense population of Germany, through the use of potatoes and beet pulp, from which the juice has been extracted, for feeding purposes. The prevalence of small farms, except in the half-feudal eastern part of Prussia, also renders poultry and bee keeping of considerable importance.

**462. Scientific Agriculture in Germany.** Modern German agriculture rests on the discoveries of the great chemist Liebig as to how poor or worn-out soils may be made to yield bountiful harvests. This miracle of nature is wrought by scattering on the land phosphates, in Germany chiefly in the form of slag from basic iron furnaces; potash salts, from the great beds at Stassfurt; and Chilean nitrates. Germany expends over \$60,000,000 a year for such commercial fertilizers. Scientific crop rotation is also practiced to maintain the fertility of the soil; and nowhere, unless possibly in Denmark, is agriculture more thoroughly organized to protect the producer and eliminate the middleman. For example, many coöperative banks and coöperative buying and selling associations assure the farmers extremely low interest rates on loans, wholesale prices on fertilizers and other supplies, and at the same time the highest prices for their products.

**463. Farm Products in Germany.** The staple crops on the sandy northern plain are potatoes, rye, and oats. (Figs. 43 and 44.) Potatoes are not only eaten in their native condition but dried and made into potato flour, starch, or dextrin. In addition, potatoes serve as a source of alcohol, which is used for light, heat, and power. Rye is the leading breadstuff throughout the northern plain. On the better soils of central Germany, around Magdeburg and Breslau, sugar beets are the leading commercial crop, and there is still some planting of flax. Germany is the largest producer of beet sugar in

the world. (Fig. 278.) On the upper Rhine the grains are wheat and barley; the industrial crops, tobacco and chicory, with grapes on all the terraced slopes and hops on the Bavarian Plateau. The country roads are commonly lined with plum trees, and nearly every German village is embowered in orchards, although the climate is far less favorable to fruits than in France.

Germany lies too far north for corn, yet some cultivated (inter-tilled) crop is indispensable in the rotation system to keep the soil in good condition. This fact largely explains the importance of potatoes in northern, sugar beets in central, and tobacco, chicory, and hops in southern Germany.

Owing to the dense population of Germany, beet sugar is the only important agricultural export, while foodstuffs, especially wheat and rye, have begun to be largely imported.

**464. The Fisheries of Germany.** Almost every village has a pond planted with German carp, and the rivers are similarly stocked. Amber, a fossil resin which first drew Greek vessels to the north, is still washed up by the waves along the shore of the Baltic; but the German sea fisheries are relatively unimportant, as the Baltic is brackish and therefore poor in fish and the best fishing grounds in the North Sea are nearer other countries.

**465. The Mineral Resources of Germany.** The mineral resources of Germany, on the other hand, are abundant and form the physical basis of its industrial and commercial prosperity. The richest mineral belt lies on the flanks of the central uplands which extend with some breaks from Belgium to Russia. The metallic resources are zinc,<sup>1</sup> in which Germany ranks next to the United States; deposits of iron which some consider the largest in the world; and also considerable copper, silver, and lead.<sup>2</sup> (Figs. 138 and 268.) There are several coal fields,<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Near Aix-la-Chapelle in the west and Königshütte in the east.

<sup>2</sup>At Mansfeld in the Harz Mountains and Freiberg in the Erzgebirge (Ore Mountains).

<sup>3</sup>In the Ruhr and Saar valleys, also on the northern slope of the Erzgebirge. Lignite occurs in central Germany around Hanover.



smaller than those of France or Austria-Hungary, but better located with reference to iron ore and water transportation, and therefore far more productive. (Fig. 268.) Finally, there are salt beds of prodigious thickness at Magdeburg, and the principal deposits of potash salts at Stassfurt. Besides

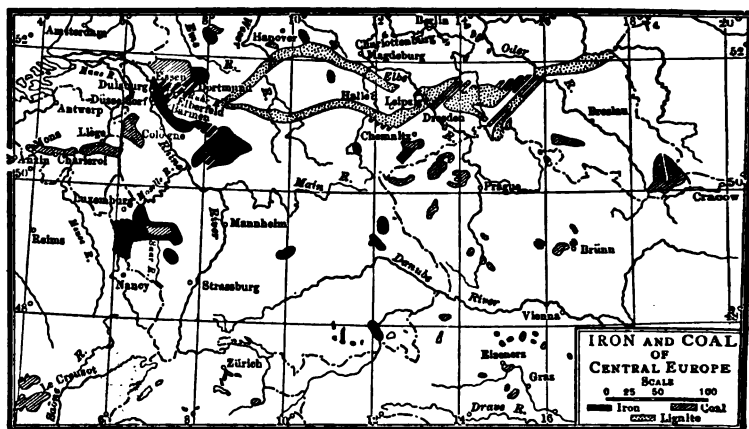


FIG. 268. Coal and iron fields of Central Europe.

their use on worn-out soils as fertilizers, potash salts are of great value in the chemical industries. In the Danube region, lithographic stone is mined at Solnhofen and graphite at Passau.

**466. The Manufactures of Germany.** Wilhelm II embodied a great truth in the pregnant words: "The future of Germany lies upon the ocean." In order to support her rapidly-growing population at home, Germany has been driven to manufacture for export, and thus became in thirty years (1870-1900) preëminently an industrial and commercial nation, whose wares are in every mart and whose ships furrow every sea.

Domestic industries, such as the manufacture of toys, clocks, and mouth harmonicas, still survive in mountain districts, especially the Black Forest. But the silence of the

thinly-peopled highlands contrasts sharply with the clang of industry in the valleys which penetrate the coal fields.

**467. The German Iron and Steel Industry.** The leading manufacturing industry is the working of iron and steel, in which Germany now surpasses Great Britain. (Figs. 269 and 282.) This industry is localized largely in the Rhine industrial district, and the heart of the Rhine district is the Ruhr coal field, which has iron ore in the vicinity and other deposits accessible by water from the Moselle Valley. (Fig. 268.) Leading steel centers are Düsseldorf; Essen, containing the great Krupp steel works (Fig. 269); and Solingen, noted for cutlery. Steel ships, however, are naturally built in the seaports, notably Stettin and Kiel, which obtain coal and iron from the upper valley by way of the Oder River.

**468. The German Textile Industry.** Next in importance is the textile industry. In the Rhine district, where imported fibers are easily accessible, the textile centers are Krefeld, ranking next to Lyons in silk; München-Gladbach, noted for cotton goods; and Barmen-Elberfeld, producing mixed textiles and aniline dyes. In the vicinity there are, in addition Aix-la-Chapelle, the seat of important woolen, and Bielefeld, of linen, manufactures. A second textile district is found in south



FIG. 269. *Bird's-eye view of the Krupp steel works at Essen.*

Germany, where water power is of some importance. The leading centers are Mülhausen and Augsburg, both producing

cotton goods. A third textile district is associated with the coal fields along the northern flank of the mountains in Saxony. Chemnitz produces chiefly hosiery, besides textile machinery; Zwickau, in a sheep-raising region, has woolen mills; and Zittau, in a flax-growing district, makes linen goods. (Fig. 280.)

**469. Other German Industries.** The industry third in importance is the manufacture of chemicals. In fact, the chemical laboratory is to a great extent the foundation of all German industries, as the machine shop is of American industries. Germany, because of her many expert chemists,<sup>1</sup> enjoys a practical monopoly in the manufactures of aniline (coal-tar) colors, especially artificial indigo; and also of artificial camphor. The center of the chemical industry is the district from Frankfurt to Mannheim on the upper Rhine.

Among other important industries are the manufacture of "Dresden" china at Meissen, near deposits of kaolin; furniture at Stuttgart, and jewelry at Pforzheim in the Black Forest; also paper, leather, and rubber goods in many cities. The center of the world's book trade is at Leipzig. Munich, at the falls of the foaming Isar, is noted for beer, which the Germans early learned to brew from hops and barley, and, for works of art in wood and marble. Nuremberg, which was the great center of German industry in the Middle Ages, now manufactures toys, pencils, electrical machinery, and whatever else can be made without great expenditure for transportation or fuel.

**470. The Position of Germany.** Germany is the most central state in Europe, and for the most part without natural boundaries. A great army is thus the price of national existence; and the sea routes through the English Channel to America or the Orient are not only longer than those of France and England, but they are at the mercy of those nations in case of war.

In a military and naval sense, therefore, the location of

<sup>1</sup>A single factory at Ludwigshafen near Mannheim employs over a hundred expert chemists.

Germany could not well be worse; but in a commercial sense it is admirable. This fact, sometimes strangely overlooked goes far to explain the growth of German commerce. Transportation by sea is far cheaper than transportation by land; hence the longer sea routes of Germany to the New World and the Orient, compared to France or England, are more than offset by her shorter land routes to all central Europe.

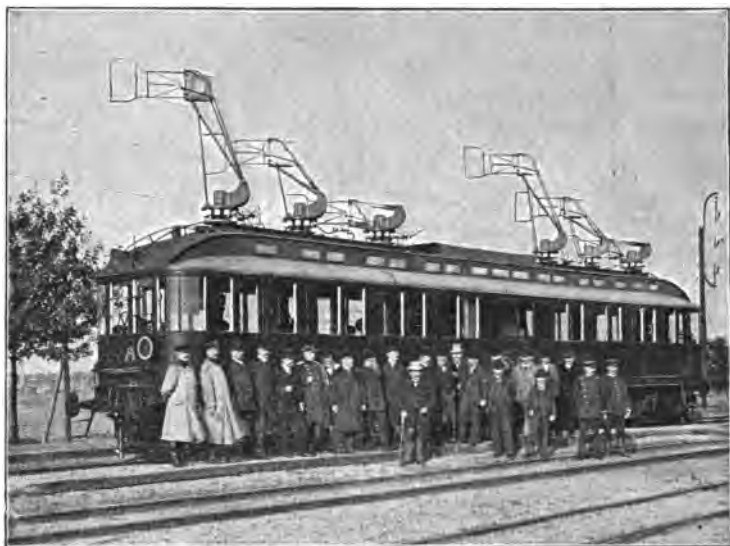


FIG. 270. *Trolley car which made the speed of 130 miles an hour near Berlin.*

**471. Transportation Facilities of Germany.** The rivers of Germany, in place of flowing from a common center as in France, are in general parallel. Germany thus lacks one element of natural cohesion. The German rivers are, however, navigable for long distances;<sup>1</sup> and the great Midland Canal

The Oder to Kosel for 400-ton vessels; the Rhine to Mannheim for 1,500 tons, Strassburg for 800 tons. Basel for small vessels; the Danube to Regensburg for large, and Ulm for small vessels; the Elbe and Vistula to beyond the German frontier. The value of the rivers for navigation has been largely increased by reforesting the hills about their headwaters.

System, already largely in operation, will ultimately connect all rivers from the Vistula to the Rhine<sup>1</sup> (Fig. 267.) This canal system is singularly favored by an ancient river valley extending from east to west, where the waters formerly flowed along the edge of a great ice sheet. The German water ways have increased their tonnage faster than the railways; and the rates by water are much less than the rates by rail. The Elbe and Rhine have by far the largest tonnage. The Rhine fleet alone comprises about 10,000 vessels.

The railways mostly belong to the several states, and grant special export rates on German goods. The rates are also arranged so as to direct traffic to German rather than foreign seaports.

The principal railway centers are Berlin (Fig. 270), the most central city in Europe, located in the middle of the North European plain,<sup>2</sup> and Frankfurt (am-Main), which stands like Vienna at the crossing of the Rhine-Danube through line with others connecting the Baltic Sea and the Mediterranean.<sup>3</sup> These Rhine railways are links in the chain of overland communications between England and India.<sup>4</sup> Munich, the gateway of Brenner Pass, is the commercial heir of Augsburg and the other mediæval cities which flourished on the trade between Italy and the north.

**472. The Seaports and Fairs of Germany.** In proportion to its size, Germany has little seacoast, except on the Baltic, because the outlet of the Rhine and the adjacent coast are controlled by foreign states.

<sup>1</sup>To carry 400 tons east and 800 tons west of the Oder. The capacity on the southern canals at present is only 110 tons on the Ludwig Canal (four feet) between the Rhine and Danube; and 200 tons on the Rhine-Rhone and Rhine-Seine canals, the latter passing the Vosges by a tunnel at Zabern or Saverne.

<sup>2</sup>Where the following through lines cross: Paris-St. Petersburg, along the inner edge of the northern plain; London-Vladivostok, Hamburg-Odessa, Copenhagen-Rome (by way of the Brenner Pass).

<sup>3</sup>From Lübeck and Hamburg along the Weser, Rhine, and Rhone to Marseilles; or by way of the St. Gothard Tunnel to Genoa.

<sup>4</sup>The Orient Express route from Paris to Constantinople crosses the parallel ridges of the Vosges at Zabern Pass (1,325 feet) and the Black Forest at Pforzheim.

On the Rhine, however, Cologne, which was the most famous port of Germany in the Middle Ages, is once more a seaport for medium-sized vessels (ten feet); and Emden, the cable station for America, has secured connection with the Rhine industrial district by the Dortmund-Ems Canal.

On the Weser, Bremen, the second port of Germany, together with its outport, Bremerhaven, handles the bulk of the emigrant traffic and is the principal market for tobacco in the world. It is also the largest market outside of England for cotton and rice.

On the Elbe, although the coast is low and the channel is kept open only by a constant battle with the sand, Hamburg is the natural commercial metropolis of Europe. It lies at the extreme head of the North Sea on the Elbe, which forms a water way through the mountains into Austria, and it now commands the ship canal to the Baltic at Kiel. It has the finest public dock and wharfage facilities in the world. The outport of Hamburg, especially in winter and for the largest vessels, is Cuxhaven.

On the Baltic, Lübeck, the ancient head of the Hanse, is once more a busy commercial port by reason of the Elbe-Trave Canal ( $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet), while Stettin is the Baltic port of Berlin and of the entire Oder Valley. These ports are kept open in winter by ice breakers. Kiel, on a deep fiord-like harbor, is the Baltic terminus of the Kaiser Wilhelm Ship Canal ( $29\frac{1}{2}$  feet); and it is the chief German naval station.

The great fairs of Leipzig, dating from the Middle Ages (1268), still draw together a large concourse of merchants. Leipzig is the principal market in the world for furs and imported fur skins, wool, and similar animal products.

**473. The Commerce of Germany.** The commercial hinterland of Germany embraces, in the first instance, Russia, Austria-Hungary, the Balkan states, and Roumania. These purchase German manufactures in return for food and raw materials. The Bagdad Railway, moreover, will enable German freight cars to reach the Persian Gulf without unloading.

German commerce has also taken the entire world for a heritage, and the German merchant marine is the advance agent of German commercial power. (Fig. 271.) Unless continually expanding foreign markets for manufactures can be had, Germany, with her dense population still increasing at the rate of nearly a million a year, must undergo a gradual process of suffocation. Foreign commerce is, therefore, a question of life or death for Germany as it is for England.

Between these two nations there is consequently an irreconcilable conflict of interests; and so superb is the German

	70%		22%		8%			
<i>Exports by classes.....</i>	Manufactures 1,144 million dollars				Raw materials 857	All others 129		
	51%		28%		21%			
<i>Imports by classes.....</i>	Raw materials 1,066 million dollars				Food stuffs and animals 578	Manufactures 448		
	15%	10%	10%	7%	7%	7%	6%	38%
<i>Exports by countries.....</i>	To Great Britain 252	Austria Hungary 171	United States 155	Netherlands 108	France 107	Switzerland 106	Russia 104	All others 627
	15%	14%	11%	9%	5%	5%	5%	36%
<i>Imports by countries.....</i>	From United States 814 million dollars	Russia 279	Great Britain 232	Austria-Hungary 198	France 108	India 106	Argentina 105	All others 745

Data from U. S. Consular Rept., Ann., No. 8

FIG. 271. *Commerce of Germany. Totals in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 1,630; imports, 2,082.*

organization of education, industry, transportation, and exchange, that not a few Englishmen are uneasy as to the outcome. The Germans, on the other hand, believe that the star of England has already passed its zenith and now declines toward its setting. As England formerly outstripped Holland, so Germany confidently expects to outstrip England.

Already the colossal growth of Germany, dwarfing both England and France, has brought these ancient rivals together in a tacit alliance, and inclines Italy to seek their support against Austria on the Adriatic.

**474. Luxemburg.** Luxemburg, on the Ardennes Plateau, is rich in coal, iron, and zinc.

It is neutral territory—for the present at least—by international agreement. It is, however, German-speaking and included in the German Customs Union and is thus in effect a part of the German Empire, as Liechtenstein is of Austria.

**475. The German Colonies.** Trade in a measure unquestionably follows the flag. Still more does it follow the language, merchant ship, and custom house. Unfortunately for Germany, however, when Bismarck cast about (1884) for colonies to serve as markets for German manufactures, and lands where the German people might settle under their own flag, he found the Temperate zones already occupied by other nations. The German colonies in East and West Africa and the South Pacific are consequently of the plantation type, not suited to white colonization. Only in Southwest Africa, which is partly temperate, are there a few thousand white people. Kiao-chou, though temperate, is already densely peopled by Chinese.

The natural sphere for German territorial expansion would therefore seem to be in Europe. Luxemburg, Belgium, Holland, and Switzerland, all fragments of the old German Empire scattered along the western border "like the ruined towers of a great wall," are drawn both by kinship and by economic interest toward Germany. Moreover, the dissolution of Austria-Hungary, through conflict of races within, may once more give Germany as in the Middle Ages an outlet on the Mediterranean at Trieste, and also open the way for German expansion toward Salonica, Constantinople, and Asia Minor.



#### XXXIV—THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE

**476. Characteristics of Russia.** Asia really begins at the western frontier of Russia (Fig. 202) as Africa does at the Pyrenees. Russia in Europe is an undivided part of the great Siberian plain; for so gradual is the ascent of the Urals that one may cross the range without seeing a sign of mountains. On the other hand, Russia is distinct in history from western Europe, where civilization was early fostered by the indented coast line and sheltered by the rugged uplands.

The Russian people are consequently Asiatic in character and largely so in blood. Peter the Great trimmed their flowing beards and garments, but could not change their habits of thought. Not far from nine-tenths of the Russian people, excluding the Finns and Poles, are peasants recently (1861) freed from serfdom. All are still almost entirely illiterate, and most of them live in villages (*mirs*) which hold the land in common somewhat like the village communities of India.

**477. The Russian Government.** The Russian government has been wittily described as "a despotism tempered by assassination," and its character seems to have been changed but little by the establishment of a Duma or Parliamént. The title of Czar is a corruption of Cæsar, Russia thereby claiming to represent the Eastern Roman Empire, whose seat was Constantinople; but the autocratic power of the Czar really comes from the Tartar Khan, to whom Russia was long subject. Russia is in truth the historical successor and heir of the great Asiatic empires—Persian, Parthian, Arabic, Turkish, and Mongol—which have disputed with Europe the supremacy of the world from Marathon to the present.

**478. The Climate of Russia.** Russia like the United States has almost every variety of climate and products. The

mountain ranges of Europe, however, presenting their ends to the west winds, create no sagebrush deserts as in America. The moisture is distributed widely over Europe and Asia, decreasing, however, toward the east and south except where the winds encounter highlands. As in the Great Plains region of the United States, Russia east of  $40^{\circ}$ , where the rainfall is in general less than 20 inches, receives most of it during the growing season. The west winds likewise modify the temperature along the Baltic, while extremes increase toward the east. In Siberia  $40^{\circ}$  F. below zero and  $110^{\circ}$  F. above zero are both common.

**479. Tundra and Forest Belts in Russia.** Along the north, both of Europe and Asia, extends a belt of moss-covered tundras supporting only reindeer. It also supplies considerable fossil ivory. Owing to the severe winters, this belt reaches farther south in eastern Siberia. (Fig. 17.)

South of the tundras is a broad belt of forests. This is the principal timber and fur region in the Old World. The maritime provinces in Siberia, indeed, live chiefly by the fur trade. The most valuable furs are the sable, marten, and ermine.

**480. The Zone of Mixed Farming in Russia.** In southern Finland and from the latitude of St. Petersburg south in Russia, the forests have been largely felled and mixed farming prevails. Toward the south, most of the land is in cereals. Special butter trains run from Ob' in Siberia to Riga and Revel, and special egg trains run from the southwestern provinces to Hamburg, to supply the English market. The methods are, however, primitive in the extreme. A crooked stick commonly serves for a plow, a sickle for a reaper, and a hand flail for a threshing machine. The three-field system, used in western Europe during the Middle Ages, still prevails here, rye being followed by oats or wheat, while the third year the land lies fallow. Over 100 million acres thus lie unused in Russia every year. Intertilled crops have, however, begun to be substituted for the year of fallow. These are chiefly potatoes along the German border, and sugar beets

around Kiev. Other industrial crops are flax in the west, and hemp in the drier central districts, both flourishing in the vegetable humus left by the forests. Russia holds first place in both of these crops. (Figs. 272 and 273.)

**481. Wheat and Grasslands of Russia.** South of a line from Kiev to Kazañ is a region of prairies which extend into western Siberia. Here is the famous "black-earth" district of great fertility; but the southeastern part of it lies in the semi-arid belt and is consequently subject to terrible famines. This district grows most of the wheat for export, though on account of poor tillage the yield per acre of wheat is the lowest

82%	9%	9%
Russia	Austria-Hungary	Other Europe
1,507 million lbs.	164	175

Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907

FIG. 272. *The world's flax fiber crop. Total in 1906, 1,846 million pounds.*

60%	14%	74%	12%
Russia	Austria	Italy	All others
707 million pounds	171	166	144

Data from Census Bulletin, No. 100

FIG. 273. *The world's hemp fiber crop. Total product in 1908, 1,188 million pounds.*

in Europe. (Fig. 276.) Grapes and tobacco occupy patches scattered from Kishinev to Saratov. The northern limit of grape growing is here fixed by the cold of winter, while in western Europe it is determined by the lack of heat in summer.

In the southeast of Europe, beyond the line of the Don-Volga rivers and in the adjacent parts of central Asia, are steppes or poor grasslands occupied by wandering shepherd tribes of Mongolian race and Mohammedan religion. These steppes support chiefly sheep and goats, besides horses and camels for transportation purposes. Russia is richer in horses than any other country in Europe.

**482. Subtropical Russia.** Finally, in the southern Crimea, in Transcaucasia, and Turkistan are sheltered valleys, shaded

and musical with the sound of running water, forming a Russian Italy. Here are grown in profusion subtropical products such as the vine, olive, mulberry (for silkworms), and cotton. The principal cereals in this zone are maize and rice. Tea gardens have also been established in Transcaucasia. This region is said to be the original home of the vine; and central Asia now furnishes a large part of the raw cotton used in Russian mills. (Fig. 84.)

**483. Other Resources of Russia.** The Caspian and Volga abound in sturgeon, yielding caviare (fish eggs) and isinglass (fish sounds or swim bladders) for export.

Russia is rich in minerals, especially mineral fuels. The petroleum output around Baku exceeds that of any other single district in the world, and other oil pools are known in Siberia. (Fig. 138.) The coal fields of European Russia exceed in area those of the rest of the continent. The four principal fields are the Ural, Tula, Warsaw, and the Donets, the latter containing anthracite. There is also an important field at Kutais in Transcaucasia, and others of immense though unknown extent in Siberia.

Iron ore is abundant near all the principal coal fields and also in Finland. Zinc is mined near the German frontier; gold in the Ural district and eastern Siberia; copper and platinum chiefly in the Urals; manganese and rock salt in Transcaucasia. Russia has the largest output of gold in Europe, and the largest output of platinum and manganese in the world. (Fig. 223.) Platinum is indispensable in chemical operations, owing to its resistance to heat and acids. It is therefore worth more than its weight in gold. In addition, eastern Siberia is said to contain large deposits, practically untouched, of all the industrial metals, besides graphite and asbestos.

**484. The Manufactures of Russia.** Russia, producing abundant raw materials, naturally has considerable manufactures of lumber, flour, sugar, tobacco, and leather, besides domestic industries such as Bukhara rugs. Russian leather

owes its peculiar odor to the birch used in tanning. Kazan, on the border of forest and prairie, where hides and bark for tanning are available, is prominent in leather working.

Under the stimulus of a high protective tariff, and aided by vast investments of French capital, Russia has also developed (since 1890) important textile and mineral industries.

The textile industry is largely localized in four districts. St. Petersburg and the factory town of Narva, possessing water power, are noted for linen and hempen goods. Moscow, near the Tula coal field, manufactures silks, cottons, and woolens. Warsaw and the adjacent factory town of Lodz make cotton goods. Tiflis, in Transcaucasia, produces carpets. The consumption of raw cotton has increased more rapidly in Russia than it has in the United States<sup>1</sup>; and Russian cotton goods already compete with the products of South Carolina and Georgia mills in the Orient. Russian rubber wares are likewise articles of export.

The output of pig iron more than tripled during the ten years ending 1900. (Fig. 282.) The principal iron-smelting center is Krivoi Rog, over rich iron ores and near the Donets coal field. Arms and cutlery are manufactured at Tula. Glass and pottery are likewise chiefly made on the coal fields, though the Imperial porcelain factory is at St. Petersburg.

**485. Water Ways.** Like Canada, Russia is a country of magnificent water ways.

The great rivers of European Russia, navigable almost to their sources, flow from a common center in the Valdai Plateau (1,150 feet). These rivers, moreover, being connected by canals, carry light-draft vessels from the Baltic and Arctic to the Black and Caspian seas.<sup>2</sup> The Volga—"Mother Volga," the Russians call it—carries by far the largest tonnage notwithstanding its waters are lost in a landlocked sea. Next

<sup>1</sup>From 1891 to 1900 the increase in consumption of raw cotton was: in Russia, from 300 to 587 million pounds; in the United States, from 1,408 to 1,656 million pounds.

<sup>2</sup>By way of the Vistula, Memel, and Düna to the Dnieper; the Neva to the Volga; the Northern Dvina to the Neva and Volga.

come the Neva and "Father Dnieper." All Russian water ways are icebound for several months each year.

In Asiatic Russia there is continuous water transportation by means of the east and west tributaries, and an Ob'-Yenisei Canal, almost from the Urals to Lake Baikal. Heavy freight also sometimes reaches the Ob' and Yenisei by sea. In the main, however, the Arctic drainage of the Siberian rivers is a fatal defect. The Amur, on the other hand, by its eastward course opened a route for Russian expansion, and now serves as a highway of Russian commerce to the Pacific.

**486. Land Transportation in Russia.** Wagon roads hardly exist in Russia, outside of the Baltic provinces, where they are due to German settlers. Goods are therefore moved chiefly in winter on sledges, but in central Asia by camel caravans. It was frost, indeed, which originally unified the Russian Empire.

The level surface has favored the construction of railways. They are mainly government property and for military reasons differ in gauge from those of Germany and Austria. Both passengers and merchandise must, therefore, change cars at the frontiers. The railway centers in European Russia are Moscow and Warsaw, centrally situated in the Russian and Polish plains. Samara, located on the great eastern bend of the Volga, is the junction point for the Siberian and central Asia railways, though a line leaving the Siberian Railway farther north now runs direct to St. Petersburg.

In Transcaucasia, Batum and Poti (the Phasis of the Greeks where the Argonauts sought the Golden Fleece) are linked by rail<sup>1</sup> with Baku on the Caspian, and Baku with Moscow along the Caspian.<sup>2</sup> These roads now handle most of the commerce of Persia, as well as the vast traffic in oil from the Baku district. A pipe line has, however, been undertaken to carry petroleum from Baku to the Black Sea. The railway has also been extended through Erivan on to the Armenian

<sup>1</sup>Through the Suram Tunnel.

<sup>2</sup>Through Derbent Pass, between the mountains and the Caspian. A shorter line is projected through Dariel Pass behind Tiflis.

plateau. whence Russia, confident in her "manifest destiny," looks forward to the conquest of all western Asia.

Two Russian railways penetrate central Asia to Tashkend, one line branching from the Siberian Railway at Orenburg, the other starting from the Caspian Sea and skirting the mountains which wall in Turkistan on the south and east. In this region are Merv, Samarkand, Khiva, and Bukhara, once rich and famous as centers of civilization and learning when they received more moisture, and a vast overland trade from



FIG. 274. *Vladivostok, the terminus of the great Trans-Siberian Railway.*

China and India took this route toward Europe. (Fig. 3.) These railways carry much raw cotton and wool to Russian mills, and have diverted most of the transit trade of central Asia from Afghanistan<sup>1</sup> and India to Russia.

**487. The Siberian Railway.** The great Siberian Railway is well named "The Path of Empire." It is now completed around Lake Baikal, a sheet of water nearly the size of Lake Michigan, where trains were formerly ferried across, and finds its outlets on the Pacific at Vladivostok (Fig. 274.) and Tairen<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Leaving the historic Bamian (Hajikhak) Pass almost untrodden.

<sup>2</sup>Crossing the Yablonovoi Mountains by a low pass (3,400 feet) and going through the Great Khingan mountains by a tunnel. Another line is building to Vladivostok along the Amur, on soil unquestionably Russian.

(Dalny). Through trains from Paris to Peking have already reduced to a third (from sixty to twenty days) the time between London and north China. This railway has restored the overland trade of Asia to importance for the first time since Vasco da Gama found the sea road to India. It carries into Europe much of the tea, raw silk, and other commodities which formerly went by sea, and almost monopolizes the passenger traffic as far south as Shanghai. The Siberian Railway also competes with the Pacific railways in America, and will compete with the Panama Canal, for oriental trade with western Europe.

**488. The Seaports of Russia.** Russia is essentially an inland state. For centuries its history has been dominated by the struggle to reach the ocean. Peter the Great carried the frontier to the Baltic; his successors won their way, sword in hand, to the Black Sea, the Caspian, and the Pacific.

The Baltic, corresponding in position to the Great Lakes in America, is commercially the most important sea to Russia because it offers the shortest routes to Germany and Great Britain, which are the best markets for Russian products. The principal Baltic ports are St. Petersburg, accessible by a channel or "canal" dredged in the shallow gulf; Riga, an old Hanse town at the mouth of the Dūna, now the outlet of the half-German Baltic provinces; Revel, the out-port of St. Petersburg; and Helsingfors in Finland.

In summer Archangel on the Arctic is also an important seaport, rivaling Riga and Revel as an outlet for Siberian products.<sup>1</sup>

On the Black Sea, Odessa (Greek Tyras) with a fine artificial harbor, between the mouths of the three main western rivers, is the leading Russian seaport, though exceeded in tonnage by Astrakhan on the Volga. Odessa ships chiefly grain. Nikolaiev at the mouth of the Southern Bug has now secured deep water, and is a close rival of Odessa. Rostov at the

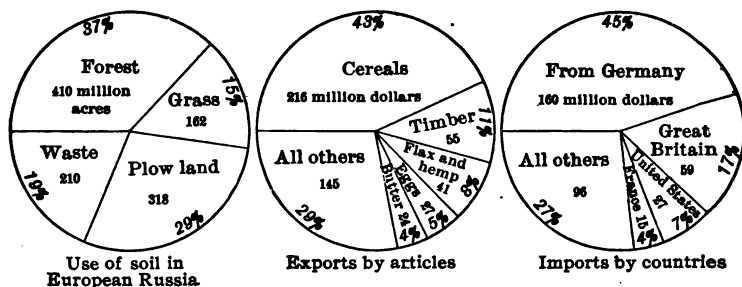
<sup>1</sup>Which go by rail to Kotlas, the head of navigation on the Northern Dvina, and thence by boat.



mouth of the Don is also an important port, though not accessible to the largest vessels.

It should be noted that Russian merchant vessels have as free and safe a passage at the Bosphorus as though Constantinople were Russian. The only thing that Russia lacks on the Black Sea, which possession of Constantinople would give, is the power to exclude from it all but Russian vessels as she does on the Caspian.

On the Pacific the seaport for both commercial and naval purposes is Vladivostok (Rule-the-East) on a splendid land-



Commercial Russia, 1904; U. S. Consular Reports, Ann., No. 20

FIG. 275. *Use of soil and commerce of Russia. Area of Russia in Europe, excluding Poland and Finland, 1,100 million acres. Commerce in 1907 (millions of dollars): exports, 508, chiefly to Germany (23%). Great Britain, Netherlands, and France; imports, 357, the largest items being raw cotton, wool, manufactures, and tea.*

locked harbor. This is now available at all seasons, being kept open in winter by ice breakers.

**489. Fairs of Russia.** Owing to the insufficient facilities for transportation in Russia, the ancient fair at Nizhniy Novgorod on the Volga still retains its importance. It brings together every August several hundred thousand traders representing every tongue of Europe and Asia. At Irbit, east of the Urals, is held in February a great fair for the sale of Siberian furs.

**490. The Commerce of Russia.** Russia exports mainly foodstuffs and raw materials, except to Asia where she

appears as an exporter of manufactures. Russian imports, on the other hand, aside from cotton, tea, and fish, are largely manufactured goods such as the Russian factories, owing to lack of experience and of technical skill, cannot yet produce.

By her exports of grain, eggs, dairy, and other farm products Russia is the chief competitor of American farm products in Europe. (Fig. 275). Russian flour from the mills at Harbin also disputes the oriental market with American flour. Russian oil is the only serious rival of American oil for the markets of the world. And Russian manufactures, especially cotton goods, are favored in Asia by discriminating port dues, unequal railway rates, and the refusal of the Russo-Chinese Bank to finance any but merchants handling Russian goods exclusively. As exporting nations, therefore, Russia and the United States are not less opposed in interests than they are in ideals, social conditions, and political principles.

**491. The Possessions of Russia.** The expansion of Russia across Asia began (1581) before the first English colony had been planted in America. Russian Asia is now an integral part of the empire, excepting only northern Manchuria, which is nominally Chinese, and also Khiva and Bukhara, which are Russian protectorates.

In like manner, the Baltic provinces and Poland have lost every vestige of independence; and the same process of destroying political rights has begun in Finland, which had retained, since its cession by Sweden (1809), a separate constitution and parliament.

The Russian Empire already embraces more than half of Europe, and a third of Asia, altogether nearly a sixth of the world, with almost double the population of the United States; arid Siberia is the only large area in the Temperate zone, except Canada, still almost unpeopled. Russia alone of the Old World nations thus has room to grow.

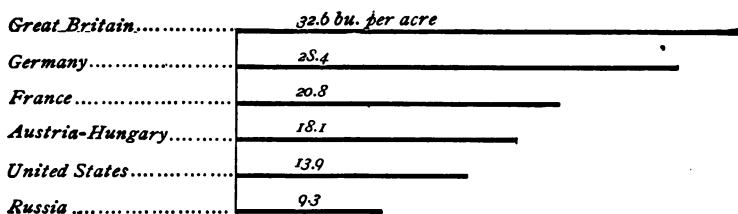
### XXXV.—WORLD INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE

**492. World Industries.** In order to enjoy the highest prosperity, each community is forced to follow the industries for which it has the greatest advantages. Different communities and countries thus come to differ as to their leading industries (Fig. 231). Such difference constitutes geographic division of labor, which forms the basis of commerce between countries. It is only as people differ in their industries that they have occasion to exchange their products (§56 and §70).

Industries carried on largely with a view to supplying the needs of other countries are world-industries, and the commerce in their products is world-commerce. Of these, a few stand out as of conspicuous commercial importance.

**493. Wheat.** The most imperative need of man is food; the principal foodstuffs are the cereals; and by far the most important commercially of the cereals is wheat (§111).

In old and densely-peopled countries, like France, and Germany, wheat is rotated with other crops on the same soil. With this system of farming, the yield per acre is large,



Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1908

FIG. 276. Average yield of wheat per acre, 1898-1907.

(Fig. 276) and the total crops are likewise large. For this reason, Europe produces more than half the wheat crop of the world. (Fig. 43.) Nevertheless, owing to the dense population of Europe, little of this wheat enters international commerce.

On the other hand, in new and thinly-peopled countries, like the United States and Argentina, the yield per acre is low,

23%	21%	14%	10%	6%	6%	5%	15%
United States 147 million bu.	Russia 137	Argentina 89	Roumania 65	Canada 42	Austria 39	India 32	All others 95.9

Data from Year Book, Dept. of Agriculture, 1907

FIG. 277. *Exports of wheat and flour. Totals, in 1906, 646.9 million bushels.*

but modern farm machinery enables one man to farm many acres. The aggregate crop is thus far in excess of the local demand. Such countries are consequently the principal sources of the wheat that enters international commerce. Thus, although Europe is the largest producer (Fig. 43) of wheat, Argentina, the United States, and Russia (one of the least densely peopled countries in Europe) are the principal exporters (Fig. 277), while the densely-peopled countries of Europe, especially Great Britain, are the largest importers.

Since the invention of plowing and harvesting machinery, wheat growing has more than ever tended to concentrate in the plains, where the level surface permits machinery to be used most effectively (§73).

**494. Sugar.** Sugar is not only a condiment, but also a concentrated food, enabling men (as shown by tests in the Austrian army) to undergo heavy and prolonged labor without exhaustion. In fact, it has something of the same effect as a stimulant, which accounts in part for its popularity.

Cane sugar was originally the product of exuberant tropical nature plus cheap—that is, slave—labor. To a great extent it is still a poverty industry, based on a rate of wages, and therefore a standard of living on the part of the laborer, far below what is necessary to a decent civilized existence. In recent years, however, the competition of beet sugar has compelled the investment of large capital in machinery, and the use of scientific methods for the extraction of cane sugar.

Sugar beets also require considerable hand labor in the fields, because they must be thinned by hand. For this work

imported laborers are commonly employed at a low wage—in Germany, for example, largely Poles. But all the other operations have from the start been based on science and high technical skill. Beets are moreover a temperate crop, yielding a large return per acre; and the advantages of beet culture are at the maximum where beets do not have to compete for the soil against corn, either because the climate is too cool, as in Germany, or too dry, as in Colorado and California. Further, beet culture is more profitable where the soil is cultivated intensively for other crops, since the fertilization and cultivation necessary for beets increase the yield of other crops; also where the beet pulp, after the juice has been extracted, can be fed to stock; and finally, where high technical skill can be depended on for the manufacturing processes.

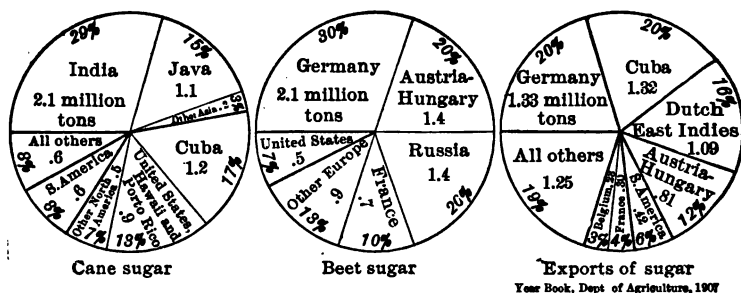


FIG. 278. Sugar industry of the world. Totals in 1907 (millions of tons): cane, 7.2; beet, 7; total production, 14.2; exports, 6.75.

For all these reasons, sugar beets are perhaps the most characteristic and most important product of scientific agriculture on rich land, in densely-peopled districts of the Temperate zone.

As a result, the production of cane sugar is localized in countries like India, Cuba, and Java, while Europe is the chief source of beet sugar. (Fig. 278.)

**495. Coffee, Tea, and Cocoa.** Coffee, tea, and cocoa belonging to the group of stimulants (§113) are highly commercial crops; that is, they are grown on limited areas, and in the main for the market.

Cocoa is native to the damp, hot tropical lowlands, and it requires much hand labor. For both reasons, it is distinctly a poverty industry carried on almost exclusively by colored laborers (§74). In fact, slavery (in all but name) still persists on cocoa plantations, especially in the west African islands. By far the larger part of the cocoa supply comes from tropical America, chiefly Brazil and Ecuador. (Fig. 185.)

Coffee is also a tropical plant, but the best grades can be grown only on the highlands which have a moderate climate. Moreover coffee, having considerable value in proportion to its bulk, is a favorite crop in districts remote from wagon roads, not to say railroads. For all these reasons, coffee has been the mainstay of the small white farmers, not alone in Porto Rico, but throughout Central America and the northern part of South America. The success of Brazil in coffee culture seems, however, to indicate that coffee can be grown more cheaply on immense plantations equipped with light railways and other labor-saving machinery. As in the case of cocoa, the bulk of the world's coffee supply comes from America, the largest producer being Brazil. (Fig. 185.) The largest consumer, both of cocoa and coffee, is the United States.

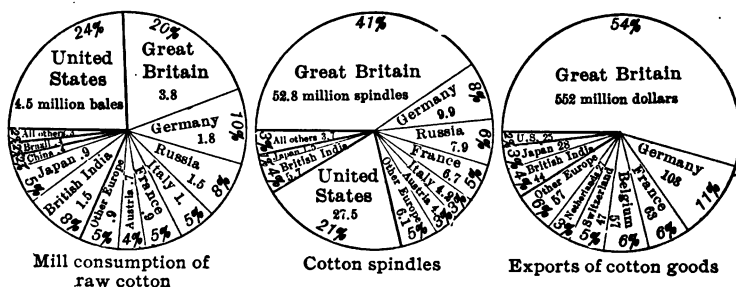
Tea is native to a region having warm, rainy summers but a fairly cold winter. Like cocoa it requires much hand labor in picking, and is therefore another poverty industry, which cannot be carried on where laborers receive more than a few cents a day. For this reason China and Japan long had a practical monopoly of tea growing. In India and Ceylon, however, the labor is equally cheap; tea planted on the highlands, in a tropical country, bears leaves the year around in place of only a few months; and labor-saving machinery has been devised for curing the tea. These advantages explain the present predominance of India and Ceylon in tea growing. (Fig 222.) The principal consumers of tea are Great Britain and Russia.

**496. Raw Cotton.** Cotton is also a tropical plant, but it is now acclimated as far north as 37° in America and 40° in the

monsoon region of Asia (§51), where it is grown as an annual. Indeed, the chief producing areas are outside the Tropics, perhaps in part because a sharp winter helps to keep in check the insect pests which assail the crop. (Fig. 84.)

Cotton growing also requires much hand labor, especially during the picking season. Cotton is therefore limited as a commercial product not only by conditions of soil and climate, but also by the supply of cheap labor.

**497. Cotton Manufactures.** On the other hand, low-grade labor, which suffices for picking cotton, cannot well be used in cotton manufactures. Spinning and weaving require not so much cheap labor as efficient labor, in order to earn the best returns on the capital invested in machinery. Even in the south, negroes are seldom employed in the cotton mills. For this reason, among others, the chief cotton growing sections are not the chief centers of cotton manufactures, at least of the finer kinds. (Figs. 84 and 279.) Cotton spinning, however, especially of the lower counts (coarser thread) has made some progress in countries such as India, Japan, and China, notably since the invention of the ring-spinning machine, which is largely automatic and therefore requires less skill on the part of the operator.

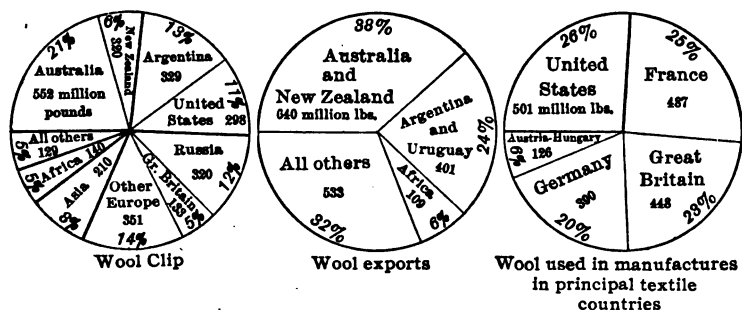


Data from Dept. of Commerce and Labor, Census Bulletin, No. 97

FIG. 279. Cotton manufactures. Totals in 1908 or latest available year: mill consumption (millions of bales), 18.6; cotton spindles (millions), 130; exports (millions of dollars), 1,008

The amount of raw cotton used in the mills of the United States is greater than in any other country, but the British

mills, which spin the finer counts, have by far the largest number of spindles. Great Britain, where the cotton industry



Data from Year Book of Agriculture, 1907, and Census of Manufactures, 1905, III, 12

FIG. 280. *The wool industry of the world. Totals in 1906 or latest available year (millions of pounds): wool clip, 2,605; exports, 1,683; wool consumption, 1,952.*

employs a large part of the population, also supplies most of the cotton manufactures entering international commerce, though Germany has become a serious rival in recent years.

**498. Wool and Silk.** Wool is in part a by-product of flocks kept primarily for mutton, as in Europe. In such countries, however, the population is usually dense and the demand for wool exceeds the supply. The wool entering international commerce therefore comes in the main from sparsely-peopled countries, especially those which have wide semi-arid regions devoted to stock raising, like Australia and Argentina. (Fig. 280.)

The silkworm is limited by climate to districts where the trees will grow on which it feeds (§105). The production of raw silk on a commercial basis is further restricted by the price of labor. A large amount of handwork is involved in caring for the worms, hence cheap labor is indispensable. The industry is consequently limited to countries having a dense population and a low standard of living, like China, Japan, and Italy. (Fig. 281.) This is the reason why all efforts at sericulture in this country have failed. The silkworm



will thrive here, but the raw silk industry will not, because the people are making better wages at something else.

**499. Woolen and Silk Manufacture.** On the other hand, the manufacture either of woolen or silk goods calls for skilled

31%	22%	14%	8%	6%	5%	4%	4%	6%
United States 13.5 million lbs.	France 9.5	Germany 6.3	Switzerland 3.5	Russia 2.8	Italy 2.1	Austria 1.7	England 1.5	All others 2.6

34%	20%	18%	9%	7%	7%	5%
France 84 million dollars	Germany 51	Switzerland 45	Italy 23	Other Europe 16	Japan 18	All others 12

Data from Census of Manufactures, 1908, and Bureau of Statistics, Dept. of Commerce

FIG. 281. *Raw silk used in manufactures and export of silk manufactures. Totals, in 1907: mill consumption, 43.5 million pounds; exports, 249 million dollars. "Others" under exports means chiefly China (11 millions).*

and intelligent labor. This is no doubt one reason why, as in the case of cotton, the same countries are not the most prominent both in the production of the raw materials and in the textile industries using these materials. (Figs. 280 and 281.)

The silk and woolen mills of the United States use the largest amount of raw silk and wool. The finer grades of silks and woollens are, however, more extensively manufactured in Europe, especially in France, Great Britain, and Germany. These three countries, where a much larger part of the population is employed in silk and woolen manufactures than in the United States, control the bulk of the export trade in silk and woolen goods.

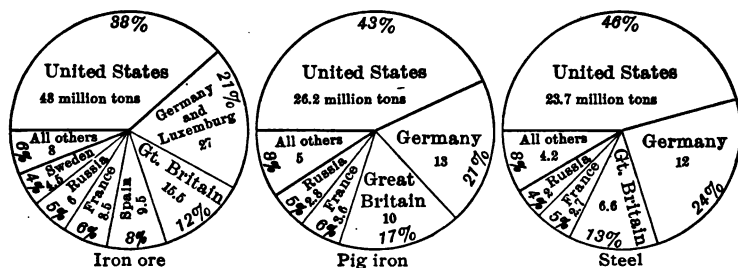
**500. Rubber.** Like other plant products, rubber can be produced only where soil and climate are suitable; and all the important rubber plants are tropical. Here again, however, the commercial rubber industry is confined to smaller areas than the rubber plant. The collection of the rubber is difficult and dangerous to health, yet commands relatively small wages. The rubber gatherers in many districts are consequently kept in perpetual debt to their employers, which practically amounts to slavery. The cultivation of rubber plants, which is rapidly assuming importance, also involves

much hand labor. For this reason it is practically confined to countries of dense population and low wage standards, like parts of Malaysia and Ceylon.

The manufacture of rubber goods, on the contrary, calls for scientific training and skill. This fact, as in the previous cases, tends to separate the countries of manufacture from the countries of origin. Rubber is largely produced in Brazil and Africa, but undergoes the various processes of manufacture in Europe and the United States. (Fig. 185.)

**501. Minerals.** The location of useful minerals depends absolutely on nature; and so in part do transportation facilities, which are indispensable to any sort of mining. Thus coal is the more valuable if located near iron and limestone, especially if it be also near navigable water. On the other hand, many rich mineral deposits cannot be worked because inaccessible, or accessible only at too great cost. This is the case, for example, in many parts of Alaska.

In the last analysis, however, while the location of minerals depends on nature, their utilization depends on man. Nature endowed China with rich mineral resources, but man has made little use of them (§331). Nature endowed England with rich coal fields, but in 1750 many mines had been abandoned



Data from Mineral Resources of U. S., 1907

FIG. 282. *The iron industry of the world. Totals in 1906 or latest available year (millions of tons): ore, 127; pig iron, 60.6; steel, 51.2.*

because, until the invention of the steam pump, they could not be kept free from water. Finally, the utilization of mineral

resources depends not only on the efficiency of tools and machinery, but perhaps even more on the relative cost and efficiency of labor. It was for this reason that the mine owners in South Africa imported Chinese coolies.

Minerals having a large value in small bulk can be mined (if only the deposits be rich enough) wherever a man and a donkey can climb. Gold mining is thus in the main a frontier industry.

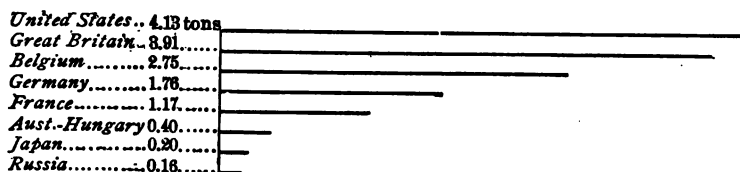
On the other hand, the lower the value of any mineral in proportion to its bulk, the more completely does its utilization depend on cheap transportation, efficient (which means expensive) machinery, and either cheap or highly-skilled labor. These conditions are only realized where there is a numerous population and a considerable accumulation of capital. In turn, the utilization of mineral resources builds up industries which still further increase the population and wealth of a country. Moreover, those minerals such as coal and iron, which have a relatively small value per ton, have frequently the largest value in the aggregate, because of the extended use made of them. For all of these reasons, the greatest mining countries are the United States, Germany, and England. (Figs. 138 and 282.)

The minerals entering most largely into international commerce are still the metals, as they have always been (§7), especially gold, iron, and copper; and, in addition to these, mineral fuels.

**502. Rank of Nations in Manufactures.** The United States clearly ranks first in the production of iron and its derivative products. This appears from the diagram showing the world's production of iron ore, pig iron, and steel (Fig. 282): and from the diagrams showing the consumption of coal and the production of pig iron, per capita<sup>1</sup>. (Figs. 283 and 284.) The United States even takes a relatively high rank in the export of machinery. (Fig. 285.)

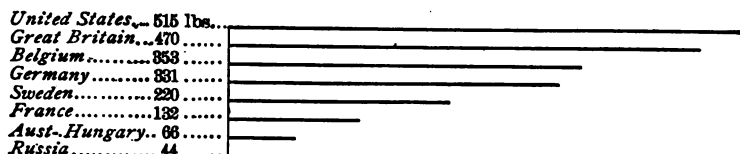
<sup>1</sup>It must be conceded, however, that part of the large consumption of coal and iron in the United States represents waste of natural resources which could be in part avoided by the use of water in place of rail transportation for heavy and bulky commodities.

Great Britain is the greatest textile manufacturing country in the world and has by far the largest export trade in textiles, especially cottons (Figs. 279 and 280). It likewise ranks next



Data from Chisholm, Hand Book, 7th edition

FIG. 283. Annual consumption of coal per capita.



Data from Summary of Commerce and Finance, July, 1904

FIG. 284. Annual production of pig iron per capita.

to the United States in the per capita use of coal and iron, and leads in the export of machinery: though Germany has passed Great Britain and now holds second place in total production of iron and steel. (Figs. 282, 283, 284, and 285.)

42%	34%	19%	5%
Great Britain	United States	Germany	France
102 million dollars	82	46	11

Data from U. S. Commerce Reports, July, 1905

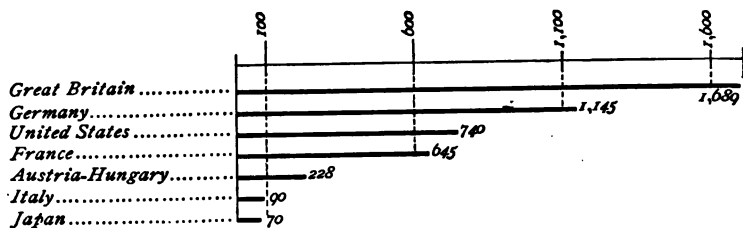
FIG. 285. Relative exports of machinery Total in 1904, 241 million dollars.

Germany, holding second place (but second by a wide margin) both in steel and textiles, is clearly first in the chemical industry, especially the manufacture of aniline dyes and other coal-tar products.

In exports of manufactures, Great Britain still leads, with Germany, the United States, and France following in order. (Fig. 286.) It must, however, be confessed that most of the American manufactures in question are foodstuffs or raw materials but little elaborated (§213). Though supplying the

bulk of the world's raw cotton, the United States imports more cotton goods, especially of the finer grades, than it exports.

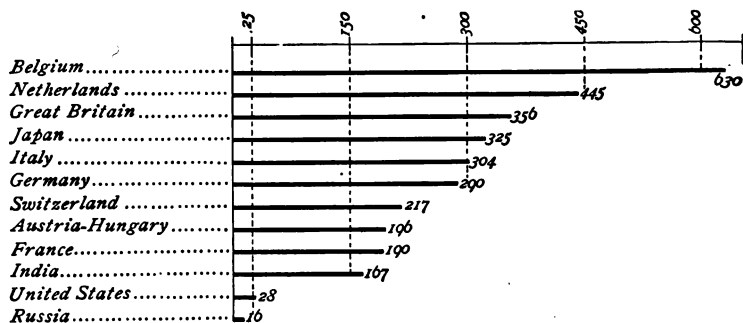
The relative rank of these countries in manufactures is partly a matter of natural resources, especially fuel, water



Data furnished by Bureau of Statistics, Dept. of Commerce

FIG. 286. Exports of manufactures in 1907, stated in millions of dollars.

power, and raw materials. Lacking such resources, no country can compete successfully in the manufacture of machine-made goods. But these localizations of industries also result in part from the human factor in production. Thus Great Britain got a tremendous start of other countries not solely because of richer coal fields, but also because power



Data from Statistical Abstract of U. S., 1907

FIG. 287. Population per square mile of principal commercial countries.

machinery was first perfected in England, and because successful wars assured a large colonial market for British goods. Later the adoption of free trade gave cheap foodstuffs and also cheap raw materials for British

industries. At present Great Britain still has the immense advantage of accumulated capital, business experience, and business prestige. The rise of American manufactures was due primarily to water power, coal, and raw materials, together with the mechanical bent of the people. The resulting industrial development has also been greatly hastened by the protective tariff; though on the other hand protection has necessarily tended, by increasing the cost of production, to check the development of export trade in manufactures. Finally, in the case of Germany, it is chiefly by reason of the human factor in production, and especially through scientific

	Manufactures and Commerce	Agriculture	All others
<i>United States</i> .....	41%	36%	23%
<i>France</i> .....	43%	44%	13%
<i>Germany</i> .....	48%	38%	14%
<i>Switzerland</i> .....	51%	37%	12%
<i>Netherlands</i> .....	51%	31%	18%
<i>Belgium</i> .....	53%	21%	26%
<i>Great Britain and Ireland</i> .....	70%	12%	18%

Data from U. S. Consular Reports, 1904

FIG. 288. *Occupations of people. Note the relative proportions in manufactures and agriculture.*

training for industry and commerce, that this country has become within the space of a single generation, one of the greatest manufacturing and commercial nations.

The extent of industrial and commercial development in the several countries will appear from a comparison of the density of population with the proportion of people following different occupations. (Figs. 287 and 288.) Belgium and the Netherlands, it will be noted, have an even greater population in proportion to size, than any of the larger countries. Such a population can be supported because Belgium combines manufactures, and the Netherlands combines a vast transit trade, with intensive agriculture.

**503. The Organization of Commerce.** The development of an export trade in manufactures depends, not alone on the

quality of the goods and their price, but also on the methods of sale. It is, moreover, in the sales department that European firms doing an export trade are especially strong (§300).

On the other hand, American manufactures are, as a rule, of acknowledged excellence, but most firms have regarded foreign trade merely as a stop-gap for dull times. The ruling idea has consequently been to make large profits on few sales, rather than small profits on many sales. Foreign commerce is thus far from commanding the undivided attention of the American nation, as it does in England and Germany. These facts explain why it is that, judging from the United States Consular Reports, Americans have not shown conspicuous capacity abroad as merchants; yet their conquest of foreign markets for manufactures will depend upon their ability to organize and go forward as merchants with the same energy and efficiency that they have shown as producers.

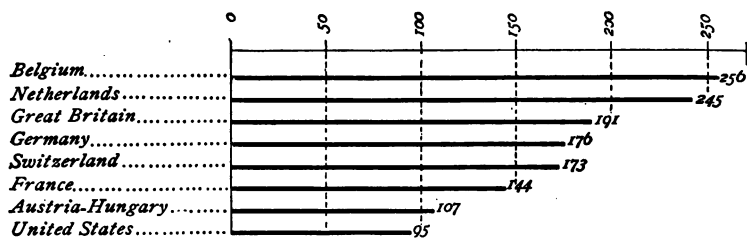
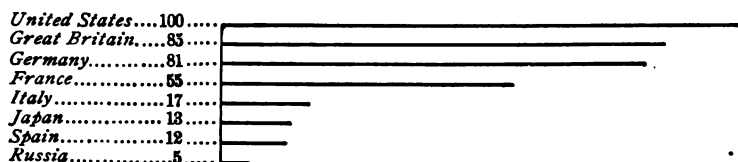


FIG. 289. *Railway mileage per 1,000 square miles of territory, showing relative density of railways.*

**504. Transportation as a Factor in International Commerce.** Transportation in relation to foreign commerce usually involves three things: transportation by land, ports where the commerce of the land may connect with the commerce of the sea, and, finally, transportation by sea.

In respect to transportation by land, the condition of the United States is not all that could be desired. The inland water ways are little used and the density of railways is much less than in Europe. (Fig. 289.) Nevertheless, nearly half the railway mileage in the world is in the United States, while

railway rates are lower here, and railway service more efficient, than in any other country. (Tables 4 and 5.) The post is also

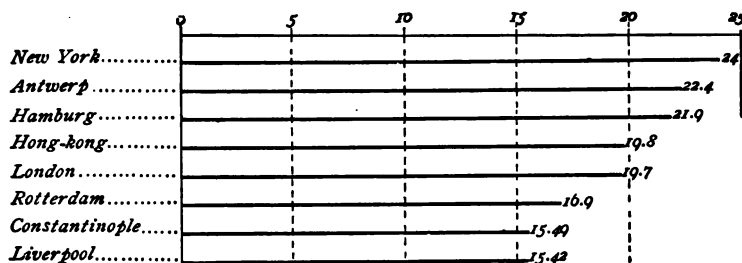


Data from Day, *History of Commerce*

FIG. 290. *Pieces of mail handled yearly per capita at time of the Twelfth Census.*

more largely used in the United States than anywhere else—an evidence at once of active intelligence and of greater business activity. (Fig. 290.)

In facilities for the commerce of the land and sea to meet and connect, the United States is not, on the whole, in the same class as the great nations of Europe. (Fig. 292.) This is moreover the fault, not of nature, but of man. American seaports are largely monopolized by private wharves and docks. To compete with Liverpool, Hamburg, and Antwerp, in export trade to neutral markets, it is necessary to create, as they have done, commodious free harbors where any vessel may load or discharge cargo promptly and cheaply without



Data from *Transportation Routes and Systems*, Dept. of Commerce, 1909

FIG. 291. *Rank of world's greatest seaports, measured by millions of net registered tonnage in foreign trade, 1907, or latest available year. All having over fifteen million tons entered and cleared are shown.*

being dependent on costly private terminals. In New York some steps have already been taken to provide such facilities.



In the matter of transportation by sea, the United States is still more poorly equipped. The other nations taking an active part in world commerce all have large fleets of merchant vessels. (Fig. 292.) The United States, on the other hand, has few sea-going merchant vessels aside from those engaged in the coasting trade, which is reserved by law to American vessels. It costs more to build ships here than in Europe; and it costs more to operate them, because the standard of living and the scale of wages are both higher in this country. As a result, in many parts of the world the American flag is now a strange and unaccustomed sight. The annual payment to foreign

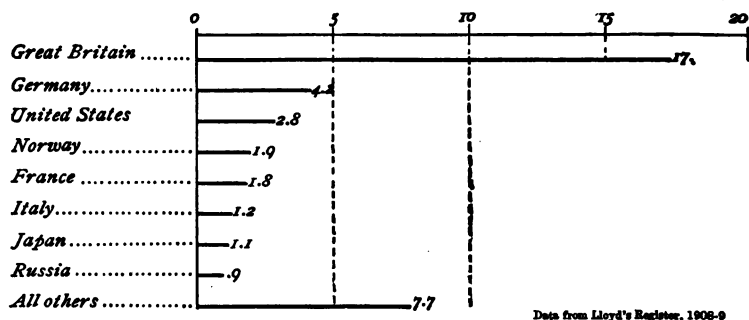


FIG. 292. Seagoing tonnage of chief commercial nations. Total in 1908, 38.9 million tons. Nearly all the American tonnage is in coastwise service, where American vessels have a monopoly by law.

ship owners for carrying American goods has been estimated at 150 million dollars<sup>1</sup>; and the losses to American industry from the lack of adequate shipping facilities, and from the discriminating rates often charged by foreign vessels, must largely exceed that amount.<sup>1</sup>

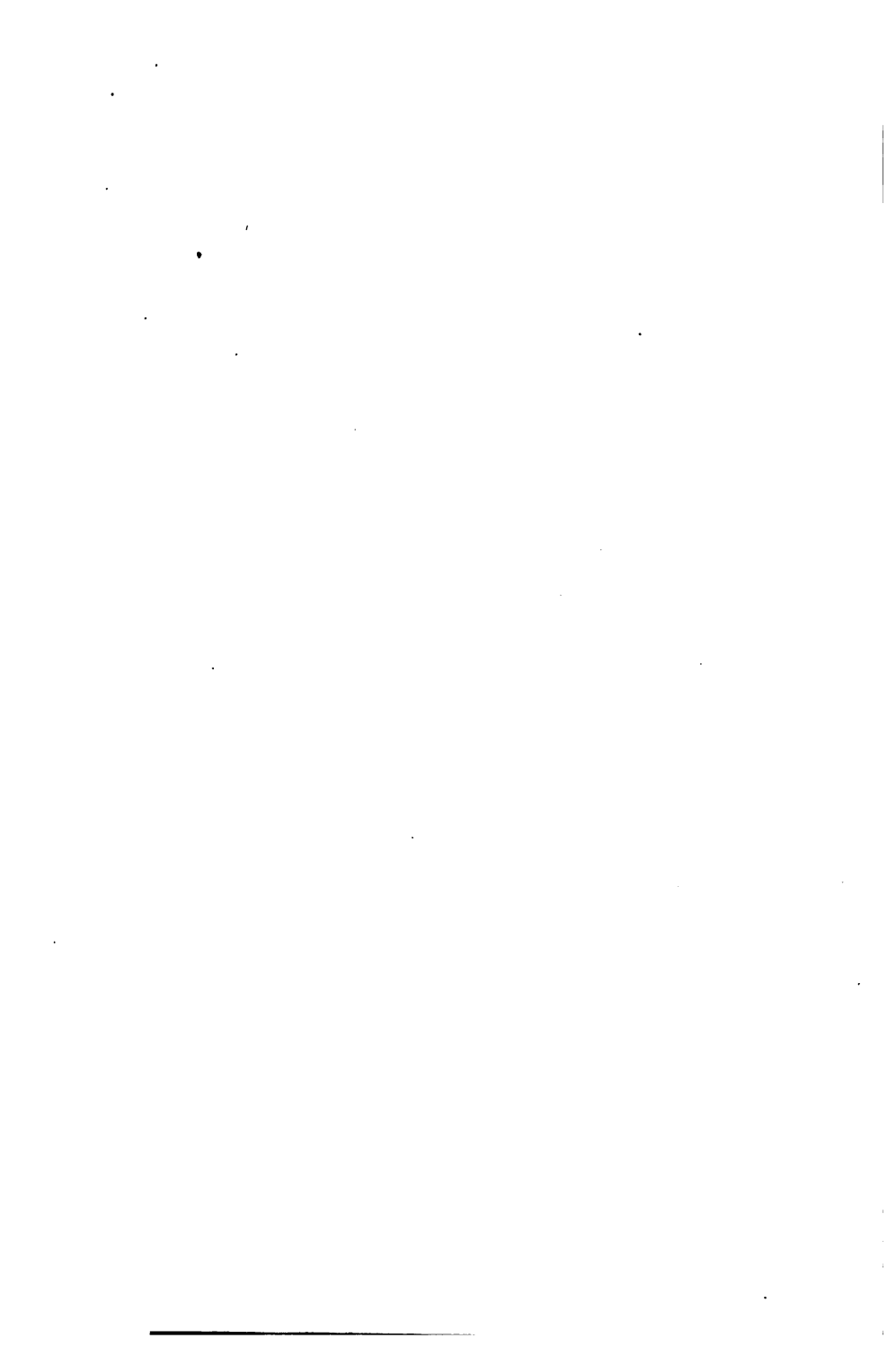
**505. The Two Currents of World Commerce.** Commerce is based on unlikeness of products; and unlikeness of products has two principal causes (§56).

<sup>1</sup>By W. W. Bates, U. S. Commissioner of Navigation. In thirty years this expenditure has amounted to 4,500 millions, according to the estimate. Fisk, *Commercial Policies*, estimates the annual payment at 200 million dollars. It must be said, however, that all such estimates are little better than guesswork.

Some countries differ in products because they have reached different stages of industrial development. Thus western Europe, where modern methods of manufacture were first applied, is still the greatest manufacturing district in the world, selling manufactured goods to the less developed countries to the eastward, and also to the westward in America and Australia, and buying in return foodstuffs, cotton, and other raw materials. The current of commerce created by such difference in economic development flows for the most part in an east and west direction and is at present the more important.

A second reason why countries differ in products, and consequently engage in commerce with one another, is climate and natural resources. For example, difference in climate is the basis of the trade between the West Indies and the United States, and also of the oriental trade which connects tropical Asia with temperate Europe. Unless diverted in some manner, the current of commerce based on climate naturally flows in a north and south direction.

This current of commerce based on climate is at present less important than one would expect from the rich natural resources of tropical countries, by reason of the human factor—the character of the inhabitants in the Torrid zone, barbarous if not savage, having few wants, and therefore indisposed to labor. Nevertheless commerce based on climate promises in the not distant future to become the more important: for Europe is slowly losing its preëminence in manufacturing, but difference in climate is permanent, and its influence on commerce is not to be avoided by any wit of man.



# PART III

## REFERENCE TABLES

Table I. Values of Principal Foreign Coins

Country	Monetary unit	Value U. S. gold dols.	Coins
Argentina.....	Peso	\$0.965	Gold: Argentine (\$4.824), $\frac{1}{2}$ Argentine. Silver: Peso and divisions. Gold: 10 and 20 crowns. Silver: 1 and 5 crowns.
Austria-Hungary....	Crown	.203	Gold: 10 and 20 francs. Silver: 1 and 5 francs.
Belgium.....	Franc	.193	Gold: 5, 10, and 20 milreis. Silver: $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, and 2 milreis.
Brazil.....	Milreis	.546	
British Possessions			
N. A. except N. F..	Dollar	1.000	
Chile.....	Peso	.365	Gold: Escudo (\$1.825), doubloon (\$3.650), cohdor (\$7.300). Silver: Peso and divisions.
China.....	Tael	.625	Silver.
France.....	Franc	.193	Gold: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 francs.
German Empire.....	Mark	.238	Gold: 5, 10, and 20 marks.
Great Britain.....	Pound Sterling	4.866 $\frac{1}{2}$	Gold: Sovereign (pound sterling), $\frac{1}{2}$ sovereign. Silver: 1 shilling.
Greece.....	Drachma	.193	Gold: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 drachmas. Silver: 5 drachmas.
India, British.....	Pound Sterling	4.866 $\frac{1}{2}$	Gold: Sovereign (pound sterling). Silver: rupee and divisions.
Italy.....	Lira	.193	Gold: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 lire. Silver: 5 lire.
Japan.....	Yen	.498	Gold: 5, 10, 20 yen. Silver: 10, 20, and 50 sen.
Mexico.....	Peso	.498	Gold: 5 and 10 pesos. Silver: Dollar or peso, and divisions.
Netherlands.....	Florin	.402	Gold: 10 florins. Silver: 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, and divisions.
Philippine Islands....	Peso	.500	Silver: Peso, 10, 20, 50 centavos.
Russia.....	Ruble	.515	Gold: 5, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 10, 15 rubles. Silver: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 100 copecks.
Spain.....	Peseta	.193	Gold: 25 pesetas. Silver: 5 pesetas.

Table 2. The Metric System of Weights and Measures

Length		Square Measure	
Meter.....	1.09 yd.	Acre.....	.0247 acre
Kilometer.....	0.621 mi.	Hectare.....	.247 "
		Sq. Kilometer.....	.386 sq. mi.
Weights		Capacity	
Kilogram.....	2.204 lbs. av.	Hectoliter (liq.).....	26.417 gals.
Quintal.....	220.4 "	(dry).....	2.83 bu.
Tonneau.....	2204 "		

Table 3. Tons and Tonnage

In ocean commerce the tonnage of a vessel is expressed in tons—the vessel ton and the cargo ton.

*Vessel Tonnage*—

*Displacement*—Weight of water displaced by vessel when loaded.

*Gross Register*—Total cubic feet capacity divided by 100.

*Net Register*—Cubic feet capacity available for cargo and passengers divided by 100.

*Cargo Tons*—Weight for grains and minerals:

*Short Ton* = 2,000 lbs.

*Long Ton* = 2,240 lbs.

*Metric Ton* = 2,204.6 lbs.

*Measurement Ton*—For manufactures and general merchandise: 40 cubic feet.

*Ton mile*—One ton of freight carried one mile.

**Table 4. The Area, Population, Railway Mileage,**  
*(Based on the Statesman's Year Book, 1909, the Statistical Abstract of*

Grand Divisions	Area	Population	Population per square mile	Railways
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>	8,592,101	121,274,460	14.1	283,481
Canada.....	3,745,574	6,153,789	1.64	23,267
Newfoundland and Labrador.....	162,734	234,163	1.44	656
United States (9).....	3,026,780	91,972,266	30.38	240,839
Alaska.....	590,884	64,356	.11	185
Canal Zone (1) (3).....	474	127,362	268.7	47
Mexico.....	767,005	13,603,919	17.7	14,780
Central America, except Panama.....	176,927	4,487,179	25.4	1,150
Panama (4).....	32,380	361,000	11.1	47
<b>West Indies</b>				
Cuba.....	44,000	2,048,980	46.5	1,897
Haiti (5).....	10,204	2,000,000	19.6	43
Dominican Republic.....	18,045	610,000	3.4	112
Porto Rico.....	3,435	1,075,698	310.2	220
British, and Bermuda.....	12,040	1,760,364	146.3	294
Danish.....	138	30,527	22.1	.....
Dutch.....	403	52,758	130.6	.....
French.....	1,069	372,297	348.2	.....
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>	7,225,791	46,624,384	6.5	34,489
Argentina.....	1,135,840	6,210,428	5.4	14,738
Bolivia.....	605,400	1,953,916	3.22	418
Brazil.....	3,218,991	19,910,646	6.2	11,830
Chile.....	307,620	3,399,928	11	3,288
Colombia.....	435,100	4,303,000	9.9	450
Ecuador.....	110,000	1,400,000	12	286
Guiana (British, Dutch, French).....	170,397	415,186	2.43	95
Paraguay.....	98,000	631,347	6.4	156
Peru.....	695,733	4,609,999	6.6	1,471
Uruguay.....	72,210	1,140,799	15.8	1,217
Venezuela.....	364,000	2,646,835	7.3	540
Falkland Islands.....	6,500	2,300	.35	.....
<b>OCEANIA</b>	3,300,000	6,547,573	2	18,284
<b>American</b>				
Hawaii.....	6,449	211,610	32.1	160
Tutuila and Guam.....	287	12,750	44.4	.....
<b>British</b>				
Australia and Papua.....	3,065,120	4,571,713	1.5	15,527
New Zealand.....	104,750	942,000	9	2,587
Fiji and Gilbert Islands, etc.....	20,490	334,700	16.3	.....
French Possessions.....	8,744	85,800	9.7	10
German Possessions.....	96,160	389,000	4	.....
<b>ASIA</b>	15,653,954	918,193,642	58.67	54,033
<b>Malay Archipelago</b>				
American Philippines.....	115,026	8,189,760	71.2	200
British Borneo.....	73,100	660,000	9	130
Dutch: Java, Sumatra, etc.....	736,400	38,000,000	51.6	1,511
Portuguese Timor.....	7,330	300,000	40.9	.....
<b>Japan Proper</b> .....	147,055	46,732,138	317	4,890
Formosa.....	134,558	3,178,885	236.2	385
Korea.....	71,000	10,000,000	140	622
Sakhalin.....	12,500	18,000	1.4	.....
<b>Chinese Empire (11)</b> .....				
The Nineteen Provinces.....	1,532,420	407,253,029	265.8	2,500
Manchuria.....	363,610	16,000,000	44	1,661
Mongolia.....	1,367,600	2,600,000	1.9	.....
Tibet.....	463,200	6,500,000	14	.....
East Turkistan.....	550,340	1,200,000	2.2	.....
<b>Russia in Asia (12)</b>				
Siberia.....	4,786,730	6,893,000	1.4	.....
Central Asia.....	1,325,530	9,118,000	6.9	6,728
Transcaucasia.....	95,402	6,199,100	64.9	.....

## XV

[illegible]

Table 4. The Area, Population, Railway Mileage,

Grand Divisions	Area	Population	Population per square mile	Railways
<i>ASIA—Continued</i>				
British Indo-China				
Malay Peninsula.....	26,380	98,891	3.7	453
Straits Settlements.....	1,600	620,127	388	21
French India and Indo-China.....	310,176	16,594,000	53	1,084
Siam.....	195,000	6,686,846	34.3	600
India Proper.....	1,087,124	231,855,533	213.3	29,936
Peudatory States.....	679,393	62,461,549	91.1	.....
Ceylon.....	25,330	3,988,004	157	562
Afghanistan.....	250,000	4,750,000	19	.....
Persia.....	628,000	9,500,000	15	6
Oman.....	82,000	800,000	9.7	.....
Aden, Perim, Socotra.....	10,460	55,947	5.3	.....
Turkey in Asia (10).....	693,610	17,683,500	25.5	2,774
Cyprus.....	3,580	256,433	71.6	61
<i>AFRICA</i>				
	10,424,354	137,792,606	13.2	19,439
Abyssinia.....	200,000	9,000,000	45	193
Egypt (14).....	12,013	11,189,978	931.4	2,223
Tripoli.....	400,000	10,000,000	2.5	.....
Morocco.....	219,000	5,000,000	22.5	.....
Liberia.....	40,000	2,000,000	50	.....
Belgian Congo.....	909,654	20,000,000	22	380
British Africa				
South Africa.....	765,774	5,956,265	7.77	7,046
West Africa.....	486,839	18,017,230	37	608
Other British Africa.....	846,870	10,631,810	12.55	2,970
French Africa				
Algeria.....	343,500	5,231,850	15.2	2,000
Tunis.....	45,779	2,000,000	43.5	806
Other French Africa.....	4,032,705	17,845,000	4.4	1,375
German Africa.....	931,460	11,700,000	12.6	1,105
Italian Africa.....	316,200	680,000	2.2	.....
Portuguese Africa.....	793,980	8,248,527	10.4	731
Spanish Africa.....	80,580	291,946	3.6	.....
<i>EUROPE</i>				
	3,778,724	428,600,818	113.4	197,970
United Kingdom.....	121,390	44,538,718	366.9	23,108
German Empire and Luxemburg.....	208,780	60,641,278	290.4	36,406
France.....	207,054	39,253,245	189.5	29,850
Netherlands.....	12,648	5,747,260	454.4	1,895
Italy.....	110,659	33,900,776	306.7	10,387
Belgium.....	11,373	7,317,561	643.8	2,872
Spain.....	194,783	19,712,585	101.2	9,195
Austria-Hungary (8).....	241,333	45,405,267	190	25,523
Austria.....	115,903	26,150,708	226	13,423
Hungary.....	125,430	19,254,559	154	12,100
Russian Empire (9).....	8,647,657	152,009,300	17.82	41,176
Russia in Europe.....	1,990,743	126,873,100	63.6	34,448
Finland.....	125,784	2,925,300	23.2	2,100
Switzerland.....	15,976	3,463,609	216.8	3,170
Denmark.....	15,592	2,605,268	167	2,083
Sweden.....	172,876	5,377,713	29.9	8,218
Norway.....	124,129	2,240,032	18	1,605
Portugal.....	35,490	5,423,132	152.8	1,742
Turkish Empire (10).....	1,565,020	35,414,300	22.6	4,013
Turkey in Europe.....	65,350	6,130,200	94	1,239
Greece.....	25,014	2,631,952	105	845
Servia.....	18,050	2,688,025	144	390
Roumania.....	50,720	6,684,265	131.8	1,989
Bulgaria.....	24,380	4,035,623	165.5	995

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and Commerce of the Principal Countries of the World

Commerce					
Year	Exports	Imports	Per cent of exports to U. S.	Per cent of imports from U. S.	Tonnage entered and cleared
1907	47,093,071	32,558,296	....	....	.....
1907	173,337,702	199,039,154	....	....	20,328,760
1907	53,967,779	58,259,450	....	....	5,849,066
1907	35,682,350	28,152,629	....	....	1 263,453
1908	612,970,202	604,265,068	7.6	2.5	14,239,180
....	....	....	....	....	....
1907	42,036,827	41,954,665	....	....	13,302,940
1907	5,165,447	5,659,218	....	....	....
1907	30,861,464	39,752,905	....	....	1,653,698
1908	1,377,648	3,195,208	....	....	426,824
1908	10,123,492	15,335,139	15.9	7.3	6,541,070
....	....	....	....	....	....
1907	3,090,495	3,420,628	....	....	844,320
....	751,791,098	628,578,995	2.2	3.2	80,266,008
1906	3,377,440	4,046,100	....	....	....
1907	105,363,371	124,071,262	7.5	2.2	7,087,648
....	....	....	....	....	....
1907	9,530,723	13,346,872	....	....	1,567,181
1907	777,507	786,526	....	8.2	727,067
1907	4,860,088	11,366,692	....	....	1,151,437
....	....	....	....	....	....
1907	405,031,845	210,025,818	.4	3.6	10,867,364
1907	39,340,786	40,090,227	.4	5.1	6,074,063
1907	37,267,131	32,041,201	2.5	2.3	10,532,448
....	....	....	....	....	....
1908	62,881,716	88,887,338	.7	1.2	8,986,693
1907	19,948,684	19,852,018	....	....	7,371,088
1907	32,041,120	32,114,020	....	....	10,823,925
1907	8,549,543	19,087,355	....	.6	4,547,634
1907	422,323	2,046,934	....	....	145,1267
1907	17,538,733	19,449,940	.5	14	10,383,534
....	4,860,088	11,366,692	....	....	....
....	9,094,764,760	11,087,460,254	6.7	11.5	584,134,262
1908	2,531,252,234	3,161,341,304	7.5	18.4	133,271,720
1908	1,618,400,000	2,070,600,000	8.8	13.3	51,222,079
1908	1,017,476,700	1,175,524,400	6.1	12.1	45,603,283
1907	889,224,000	1,082,184,000	3.9	10.9	27,662,268
1907	357,337,404	532,774,685	14.1	11.6	85,075,908
1907	549,683,300	728,290,800	2.8	8.5	26,959,216
1907	179,981,957	179,654,243	3.8	15	24,941,299
1907	498,608,600	523,105,400	6.2	29	40,746,591
....	....	....	....	....	34,860,694
1907	328,460,496	335,401 878	....	....	5,885,897
1907	563,873,500	412,360,500	.5	6.6	21,154,000
....	....	....	....	....	....
1907	51,576,741	73,157,808	....	....	4,961,944
1908	204,541,595	315,412,018	14	.2	....
1907	162,119,096	211,416,088	4.5	15.7	5,120,621
1906	135,148,330	172,563,060	2.4	9.4	10,995,756
1907	58,952,442	96,920,270	3.2	3.9	6,404,577
1907	32,832,800	66,369,348	8.5	9.9	18,605,0057
1906	86,558,428	138,010,492	2.5	.9	46,685,621
....	....	....	....	....	....
1907	22,397,530	28,639,886	5.2	2.8	9,585,209
1907	15,727,813	13,622,582	....	.3	....
1906	94,832,514	81,458,026	....	.5	18,632,954
1907	24,239,776	24,055,344	1	.7	6,506,211



Table 4. The Area, Population, Railway Mileage,

SUMMARY OF THE LEADING COMMERCIAL				
Grand Divisions	Area	Population	Population per square mile	Railways
British Empire (15)	11,343,706	394,246,882	246.5	107,343
United Kingdom.....	121,300	44,538,718	366.9	23,108
Other Europe.....	119	228,618	108.1	8
India.....	1,766,517	294,317,082	213	29,936
Other Asia.....	141,150	6,218,006	44	1,241
Australia and Pacific Islands.	3,100,360	5,848,413	1.8	18,114
Africa.....	2,099,483	34,605,305	16.5	10,624
America.....	4,024,687	8,490,740	2.1	24,312
Russian Empire and Finland	8,647,657	152,009,300	17.82	43,276
Russia in Europe.....	1,906,743	126,873,000	63.6	34,448
Russia in Asia.....	6,207,662	22,211,000	3.6	6,728
Finland.....	125,784	2,925,300	23.2	2,100
France	4,983,180	80,905,895	16	35,115
Europe.....	207,054	39,252,245	189.5	29,850
Algeria.....	343,500	5,231,850	15.2	2,000
Other Africa.....	4,078,484	19,345,000	4.7	2,181
Asia.....	310,176	10,594,000	53.5	1,084
America.....	35,222	397,000	11.3	.....
Oceania.....	8,744	85,800	9.7	10
United States and Possessions	3,743,344	101,100,000	27.03	230,842
Continental U. S.....	3,026,789	91,072,266	30.38	230,097
Alaska.....	590,884	64,356	.11	185
Porto Rico.....	3,435	1,118,012	325.47	200
Hawaii, Guam, and Tutuila (1) ..	6,716	224,360	33.3	160
Philippine Islands (1) ..	115,026	8,189,760	71.2	200
Canal Zone (1) (3).....	474	127,362	268.7	.....
German Empire	1,236,600	72,760,278	53.8	37,741
Europe.....	208,780	60,641,278	290.4	36,406
Africa.....	931,460	11,700,000	12.6	1,105
Asia.....	200	30,000	150	230
Oceania.....	96,160	389,000	4	.....

## NOTES

1. Population from Government estimates for 1909.
2. Commerce of United States and outlying territory except that of Philippines, which is classed as foreign commerce.
3. Commerce for Canal Zone included in that of Panama.
4. From *The Bulletin of American Republics*, 1908. Imports for Isthmian Canal Commission \$13,468,359.
5. Commerce from *Bulletin of American Republics*.
6. Complete data not found.
7. Entered only.
8. Commerce figures of Austria-Hungary from report of common customs territory.
9. Population from Census of 1910.

Table 5. Rail and Inland Water Transportation in

	United States (1906)	Great Britain (1905)	Germany (1905)
Railways—mileage.....	224,443	22,847	35,235
Railways per 1,000 square miles.....	71.2	188.8	169.4
Railways per 10,000 population.....	25.4	5.3	5.8
Water ways—mileage.....	28,600	4,053	6,200
Water ways per 1,000 square miles.....	9.4	33.5	30.3
Water ways per 10,000 population.....	3.2	94	1.02
Tonnage—by rail in millions of tons.....	1,631	461	648.9
Tonnage—by water in millions of tons.....	122	43	113.9
Tonnage % total by rail.....	93	93.2	85.2
Tonnage % total by water.....	7	6.8	14.8

## and Commerce of the Principal Countries of the World

## AND COLONIAL COUNTRIES

Year	Exports	Imports	Per cent of exports to U. S.	Per cent of imports from U. S.	Tonnage entered and cleared
....	4,712,448,810	5,125,718,064	7.4	15.9	292,821,511
1908	2,531,252,234	3,161,341,304	7.5	18.4	133,271,720
....	....	....	....	....	17,667,801
1908	612,070,202	604,265,008	7.6	2.5	14,239,180
1907	282,889,023	208,014,674	....	....	62,016,302
1907	457,684,597	340,954,815	3.8	9.4	12,109,826
1907	481,709,762	282,157,246	.5	3.6	21,048,502
1908	345,942,992	438,985,917	25.7	40.5	32,468,090
....	615,450,241	485,518,308	.5	6.6	26,115,944
1907	....	....	....	....	....
1906	....	....	....	....	....
1906	51,576,741	73,157,808	....	....	4,961,944
....	1,199,240,935	1,386,439,756	8.6	8.6	80,646,980
1908	1,017,476,700	1,175,524,400	6.1	12.1	45,603,283
1908	62,881,716	88,887,338	.7	1.2	8,986,693
1907	51,089,804	51,966,038	....	....	18,195,013
1907	53,967,779	58,259,450	....	....	5,859,066
1907	10,581,122	9,343,267	2	37.4	1,541,022
1907	2,343,814	2,459,263	22.8	13.3	401,903
....	1,893,589,913	1,225,260,149	....	....	82,329,614
1908	1,774,966,299	1,131,244,067	....	....	72,897,447
1908	12,825,682	17,354,877	85.5	95.5	830,776
1908	30,644,470	25,825,665	84.5	87.8	870,027
1908	42,336,895	19,917,183	82.9	47.26	2,216,641
1908	32,816,567	30,918,357	31.5	16.4	5,508,723
....	....	....	....	....	....
....	1,636,342,382	2,111,326,063	9.9	12.1	57,298,946
1908	1,618,400,000	2,070,600,000	8.8	13.3	51,222,079
1907	8,549,543	19,087,355	....	.6	4,547,034
1907	8,145,550	19,605,012	....	....	1,108,913
1907	1,247,289	2,033,696	4.3	2.8	420,320

Commerce of Bosnia and Herzegovina included. Special commerce of Hungary given separately.

9. Commerce for Russia as a whole; not given separately for different divisions.
10. Statistics Turkish Empire include area and population of tributary states and commerce of Turkey in Europe and Asia.
11. Figures for commerce of China given only for Chinese Empire as a whole.
12. Commerce of Russia in Asia included in Russian Empire.
13. Commerce included in that of Turkish Empire.
14. Area given that of Nile Valley only. Entire territory about 400,000 square miles.
15. Compiled from statistics for British Empire in Statesman's Year Book, 1909.
16. Population of states and territories, Government estimates for 1909.

## Some of the Principal Commercial Countries

France (1905)	Austria-Hungary (1905)	Russia in Europe (1906)	Belgium (1905)	Canada (1907)
24,459	25,523	32,743	2,873.8	22,452
113.3	106	16.09	228	5.72
6.23	5.62	2.53	3.43	34.84
7,485	7,400	28,516	1,015.6	2,700
36.1	30.7	26.6	92.3	.72
1.9	1.6	4.2	1.39	4.4
153	215	179	72	63.8
37.5	9	41.6	58.8	20.5
80.9	0	81.2	55	75.7
19.1	4	18.8	45	24.3

**Table 6. Commerce of the United States with Foreign Countries and with Non-contiguous Territory by Classes of Commodities**

(From U. S. Statistical Abstract, 1908, and Com. and Navi., 1908.)

**A. EXPORTS FROM UNITED STATES. (Values in Millions of Dollars.)**

GRAND DIVISIONS	Foodstuffs, crude, and food ani- mals	Foodstuffs, wholly or partly manuf'ct'd	Raw ma- terials for use in mfg.	Materials partly manufac- tured	Finished manufac- tures	Miscel- laneous	Totals
To No. America ..	20.58	43.74	56.09	38.59	150.19	4.06	313.25
To So. America ..	1.16	9.01	1.04	12.41	59.35	.08	83.05
To Oceania.....	1.08	2.49	2.61	5.78	34.65	.04	46.65
To Asia.....	3.17	11.61	14.45	8.22	63.66	.38	101.49
To Africa.....	5.69	3.12	1.50	1.84	8.17	....	20.32
To Europe.....	157.37	261.99	480.99	194.26	173.45	1.96	1,270.02
Total values....	189.05	331.96	556.68	261.10	489.47	6.52	1,834.78

**B. IMPORTS INTO UNITED STATES. (Values in Millions of Dollars.)**

From No. America	36.92	68.52	76.74	35.80	19.86	.98	238.82
From So. America.	64.17	.89	39.31	19.47	1.03	.13	125.00
From Oceania .....	.51	.71	19.40	4.14	.27	.02	25.05
From Asia.....	20.27	16.26	86.68	17.12	40.62	.22	181.17
From Africa.....	.29	.03	15.70	.05	.19	.03	16.29
From Europe.....	23.42	60.60	125.99	119.74	269.24	9.02	608.01
Total values....	145.58	147.01	363.82	196.32	331.21	10.40	1,194.34

**C. EXPORTS FROM UNITED STATES. (By per cent of Total Value.)**

To No. America ..	1.12	2.38	3.05	2.10	8.18	.221	17.05
To So. America ..	.06	.49	.05	.70	3.23	.004	4.53
To Oceania.....	.06	.14	.14	.31	1.80	.002	2.54
To Asia.....	.17	.63	.79	.45	3.47	.021	5.53
To Africa.....	.31	.17	.09	.10	.45	....	1.12
To Europe.....	8.58	14.28	26.22	10.59	9.45	.107	69.23
Total per cents ..	10.30	18.09	30.34	14.25	26.67	0.355	100.00

**D. IMPORTS INTO UNITED STATES. (By per cent of Total Value.)**

From No. America	3.09	5.74	6.43	3.00	1.66	.082	20.00
From So. America.	5.38	.075	3.29	1.63	.09	.013	10.47
From Oceania .....	.043	.06	1.62	.35	.023	.002	2.09
From Asia.....	1.70	1.36	7.26	1.43	3.40	.02	15.17
From Africa.....	.024	.013	1.31	....	.016	.003	1.36
From Europe.....	1.96	5.07	10.55	10.93	22.54	.76	50.91
Total per cents ..	12.19	12.31	30.46	16.44	27.72	.88	100.00

**E. EXPORTS FROM UNITED STATES TO NON-CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY (Values in Millions of Dollars.)**

To Alaska.....	1.13	4.54	.36	.52	9.25	.16	15.96
To Hawaii.....	.59	3.51	1.87	2.24	6.32	.10	14.63
To Philippines....	.17	1.38	1.41	4.81	2.12	1.56	11.45
To Porto Rico....	.56	8.61	.58	2.28	9.89	.44	22.36
Total values....	2.45	18.04	4.22	9.85	27.58	2.26	64.40

**F. IMPORTS INTO UNITED STATES FROM NON-CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY (Values in Millions of Dollars.)**

From Alaska.....	.05	8.94	1.00	.17	.57	.18	10.91
From Hawaii.....	.99	39.99	.15	.04	.39	.14	41.60
From Philippines ..	.22	....	8.92	....	.69	.33	10.16
From Porto Rico ..	1.20	18.97	1.80	....	3.88	.93	25.88
Total values....	2.46	67.90	11.87	.21	5.43	.68	88.55

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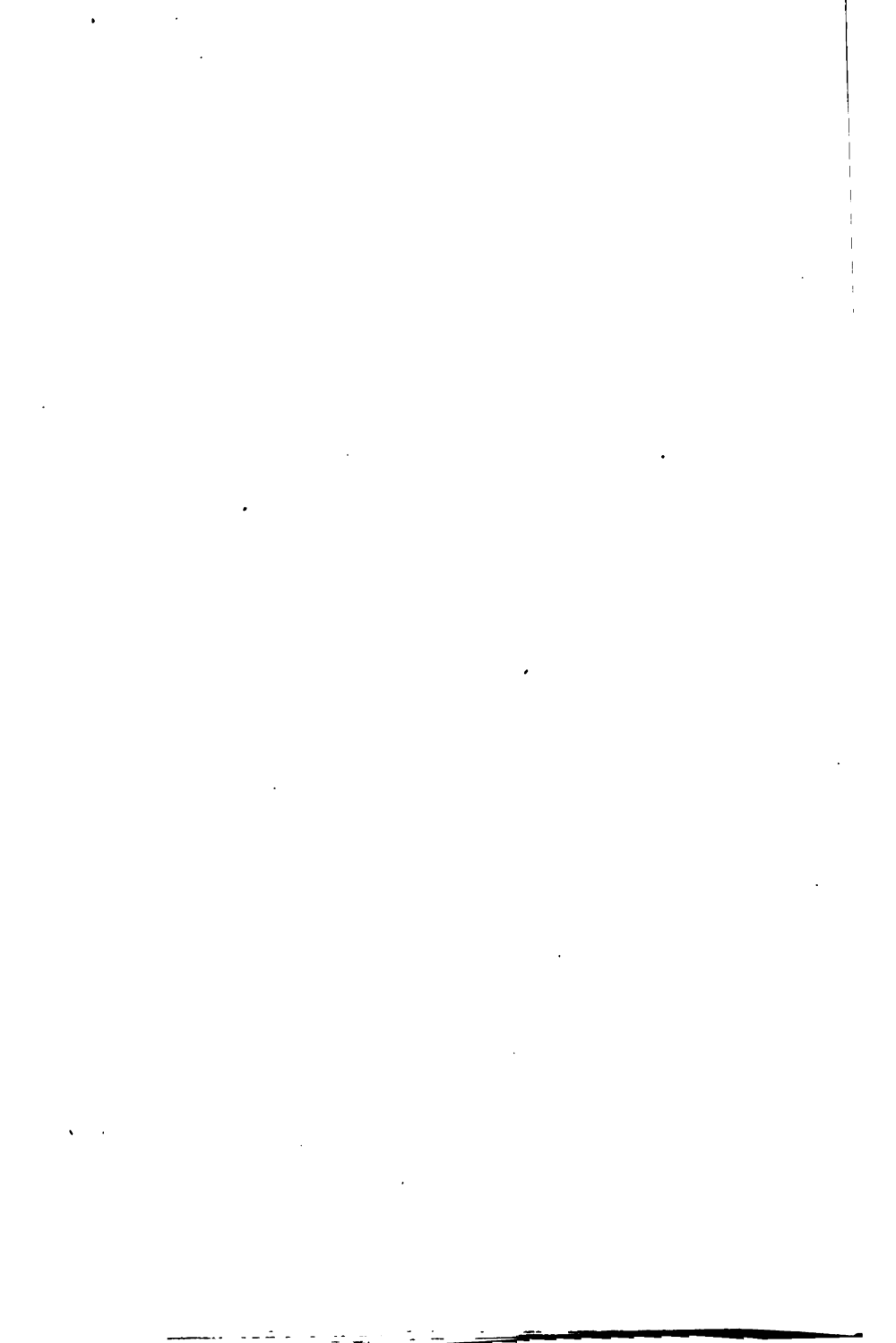
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